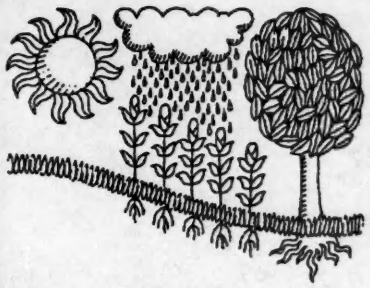

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service and World Agricultural Outlook Board

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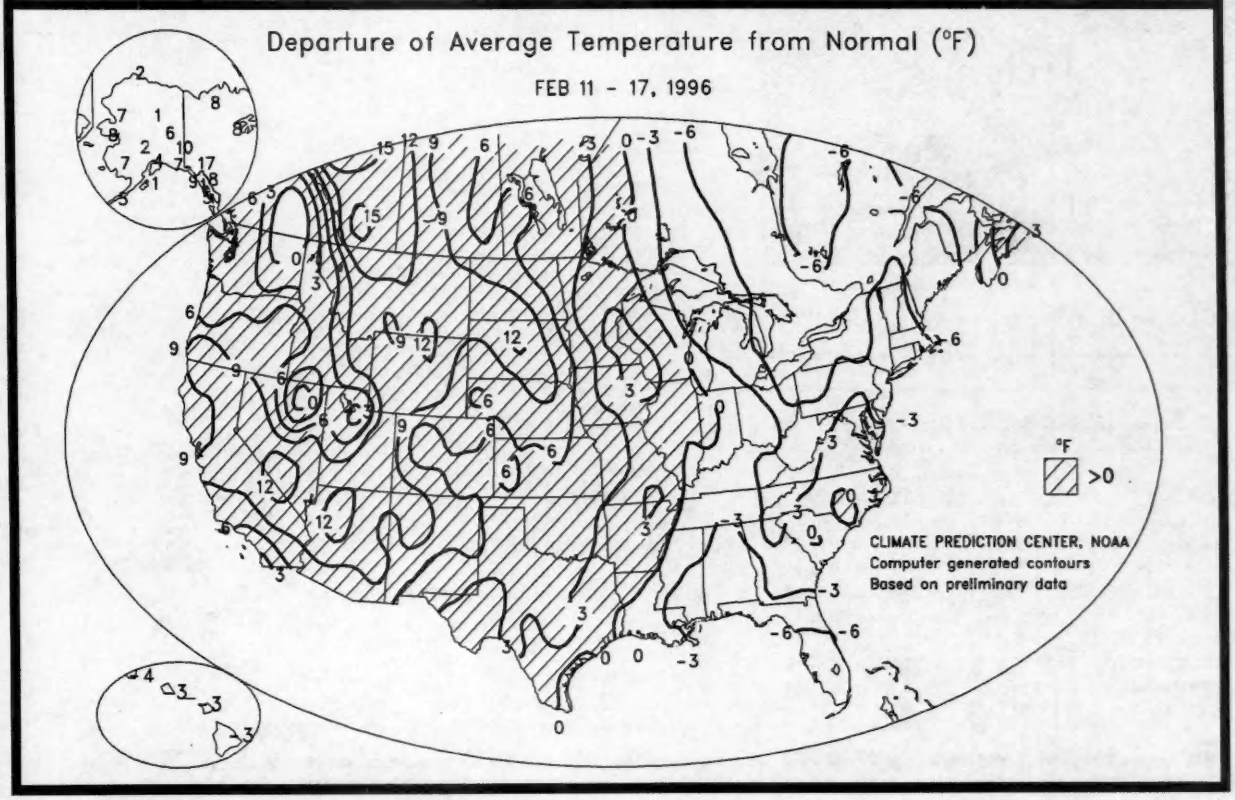

HIGHLIGHTS

February 11 - 17, 1996

A strong ridge aloft fueled warmth in the **West**, resulting in more than 100 daily records. Farther east, several disturbances plunged southeastward, reinforcing a cool pattern across the **East**, including a minor freeze into **central Florida** on February 17. Late in the week, a disturbance tapped Atlantic moisture, generating heavy snow along the **Atlantic Seaboard**. Meanwhile, precipitation returned to the **West Coast** after a week's absence. But in the **central and southern Plains**, winter wheat continued to be stressed by temperature oscillations, breezy conditions, and the cumulative effects of a 20-week dry spell.

Early in the week, dry weather permitted rivers in **western Oregon**--including the **Willamette**--to recede from their most damaging levels

(Continued on page 2)

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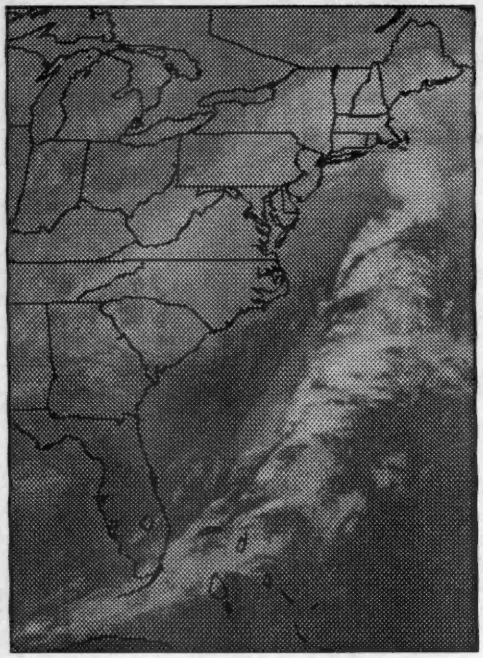

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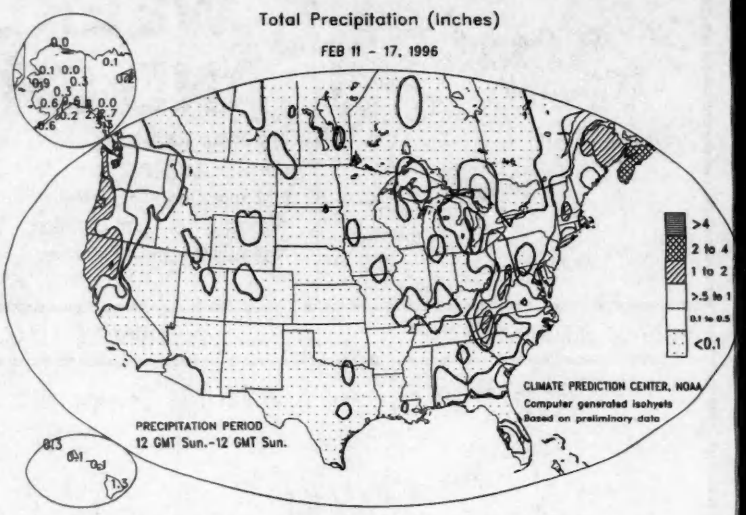
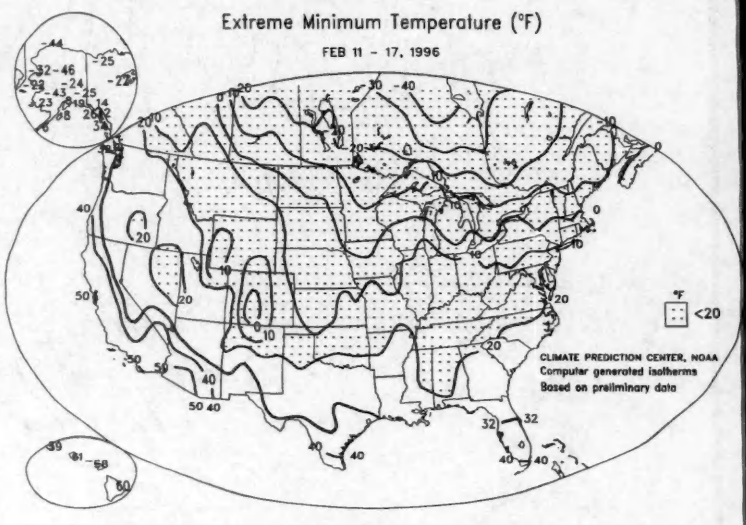




Seasonal Snowfall Records, 1995-96

Location	Total (Inches)	Previous/Season
S.S. Marie, MI	194.8	178.6 in 1976-77
Charleston, WV	84.7	76.6 in 1977-78
Dulles Airport, VA	53.4	44.4 in 1966-67
Windsor Locks, CT	90.2	84.9 in 1993-94
Danbury, CT	81.5+	not available
Providence, RI	78.0	75.6 in 1947-48
Philadelphia, PA	55.9	55.4 in 1898-99
Baltimore, MD	54.9	51.8 in 1963-64
Lynchburg, VA	51.0+	46.7 in 1895-96

Notes: Seasonal snowfall records were established on February 16, 1996, in the last six locations. Both Dulles Airport's and Charleston's records were broken during the February 2-3 storm; Sault Ste. Marie's record was eclipsed on January 30. Data in this table include snowfall through February 19, except at Danbury and Lynchburg (through early-afternoon February 16). Periodic updates will be published in the *WWCB* during the spring.

(Continued from front cover)

since late-December 1964. On Monday, the first of six consecutive daily records occurred in **Blanding, UT** (68°F on February 14 and 16) and **Quillayute, WA** (70°F on February 15). Highs topped 80°F as far north as **Redding, CA** (82°F). At midweek, warmth spread across the **South**, where **Waco, TX** registered 87°F.

On Thursday, as a low-pressure system crossed the **Midwest** en route to the **East Coast**, briefly cooler air spread southward through the **Plains**. Northerly component winds [illegible] to 46 mph in **Wichita, KS**, 52 mph in **Concordia, KS**, [illegible] mph in **Valentine, NE**, helping to lower temperatures into the single digits by Friday morning. Farther south, 32-mph winds pushed through **San Antonio, TX**, where no rain has fallen yet this year.

Heavy snow developed on Friday from the **Middle Atlantic States** into **New England** as low pressure intensified offshore. Storm totals of 10.3 inches in **Windsor Locks, CT**; 9.8 inches in **Baltimore (BWI), MD**; 7.5 inches in **Philadelphia, PA** and at **Dulles Airport, VA**; and 7.0 inches in **Providence, RI** boosted seasonal snowfalls to all-time records. Totals in the **Southeast** included 5.6 inches in **Raleigh-Durham, NC**, 1.2 inches in **Huntsville, AL**, and 1.0 inch in **Greenville-Spartanburg, SC**.

On Saturday, record warmth continued in the **West** as far north as Alaska, where highs included 46°F in **Kodiak** and 42°F on **St. Paul Island**. In the **Southwest**, **Albuquerque, NM** recorded 70°F, while **Las Vegas, NV** (81°F) notched their first 80-degree reading of the year, 32 days earlier than normal. Meanwhile, more than an inch of rain dampened **Brookings, OR** and **Blue Canyon, CA**. Farther east, daily-record lows along the **Gulf Coast** included 20°F in **Mobile, AL**, 28°F in **Lake Charles, LA**, and 34°F in **Tampa, FL**. Elsewhere in **Peninsular Florida**, daily records included 30°F in **Lakeland** and 35°F in both **Ft. Myers** and **West Palm Beach**. Cool air also invaded **Hawaii**, where weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4°F below normal.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 17, 1996

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	54	31	68	17	43	-3	0.00	-1.15	0.00	16.11	136	11.34	144	74	34	0	4	0	0
MOBILE	61	35	71	20	48	-5	0.04	-1.31	0.04	16.70	126	7.85	99	82	26	0	3	1	0
MONTGOMERY	57	33	72	20	45	-3	0.00	-1.31	0.00	14.61	111	8.43	105	77	28	0	4	0	0
AK ANCHORAGE	27	17	33	8	22	4	0.61	0.42	0.57	2.42	103	2.33	185	94	61	0	7	3	1
BARROW	-8	-26	15	-44	-16	2	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.06	19	0.00	0	78	73	0	7	0	0
FAIRBANKS	9	-5	19	-24	2	6	0.33	0.22	0.14	1.14	73	1.07	147	85	72	0	7	4	0
JUNEAU	39	34	44	33	36	8	2.71	1.78	1.24	11.50	102	7.45	108	99	88	0	2	5	2
KODIAK	38	25	46	8	31	1	0.20	-1.11	0.13	15.87	90	4.44	41	86	49	0	6	4	0
NOME	19	4	33	-22	12	8	0.91	0.76	0.41	2.50	123	1.91	162	88	71	0	7	5	0
AZ PHOENIX	78	56	81	52	67	9	0.03	-0.14	0.03	0.79	39	0.78	74	62	19	0	0	1	0
PRESCOTT	68	39	76	35	54	15	0.00	-0.38	0.00	0.49	12	0.32	13	69	23	0	0	0	0
TUCSON	74	48	80	44	61	7	0.23	0.06	0.23	0.73	31	0.51	40	72	21	0	0	1	0
YUMA	80	56	86	52	68	7	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.18	19	0.16	33	73	22	0	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	58	36	74	18	42	0	0.00	-0.64	0.00	7.23	114	3.07	92	66	22	0	6	0	0
LITTLE ROCK	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.00	-0.89	0.00	6.59	73	2.61	50	--	--	-	-	-	-
CA BAKERSFIELD	73	50	78	46	61	8	0.02	-0.26	0.02	3.37	160	1.34	90	95	51	0	0	1	0
BURBANK	65	48	70	45	56	7	0.97	-0.19	0.55	24.08	161	12.50	141	93	38	0	0	3	1
FRESNO	71	51	76	48	61	9	0.06	-0.38	0.06	4.91	110	3.05	100	95	37	0	0	1	0
LOS ANGELES	67	56	76	52	62	4	0.00	-0.63	0.00	4.35	78	3.18	55	95	33	0	0	0	0
REDDING	72	48	82	40	60	9	0.99	-0.10	0.71	23.99	167	13.18	149	90	47	0	0	3	1
SACRAMENTO	68	51	73	47	59	9	0.24	-0.47	--	10.96	136	5.83	104	99	59	0	0	-	-
SAN DIEGO	65	56	69	53	60	2	0.04	-0.33	0.03	1.87	43	0.99	36	93	38	0	0	2	0
SAN FRANCISCO	58	52	76	49	60	8	0.49	-0.29	0.39	15.38	163	8.96	141	96	61	0	0	3	0
CO DENVER	57	21	68	13	39	6	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.31	22	0.28	36	63	17	0	6	0	0
GRAND JUNCTION	60	29	65	25	45	9	0.00	-0.14	0.00	1.26	88	0.71	88	61	16	0	7	0	0
PUEBLO	62	16	71	6	38	3	0.00	-0.07	0.00	0.23	26	0.23	49	61	14	0	7	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	33	21	48	9	27	-4	0.70	-0.04	0.39	8.81	103	6.87	137	82	50	0	5	5	0
HARTFORD	30	14	46	3	22	-5	0.79	-0.01	0.55	10.89	118	8.57	160	83	49	0	6	3	1
DC WASHINGTON	41	27	54	17	34	-3	0.32	-0.45	0.22	8.44	113	6.27	144	68	43	0	4	1	0
FL PANAMA CITY	59	41	66	28	50	-2	0.09	-1.21	0.09	5.85	45	3.65	46	80	45	0	2	1	0
DAYTONA BEACH	66	42	75	31	54	-5	0.04	-0.74	0.04	9.72	135	6.28	136	86	35	0	1	1	0
JACKSONVILLE	65	39	75	27	52	-4	0.21	-0.78	0.11	4.05	49	1.85	34	79	34	0	3	2	0
KEY WEST	70	54	78	46	62	-8	0.06	-0.38	0.06	4.05	78	1.13	36	87	52	0	0	1	0
MIAMI	73	50	80	39	62	-7	0.11	-0.41	0.11	3.57	70	2.72	83	85	37	0	0	1	0
ORLANDO	66	43	77	33	55	-6	0.09	-0.67	0.09	7.66	123	6.91	170	88	40	0	0	1	0
TALLAHASSEE	64	36	76	22	50	-3	0.19	-1.19	0.18	8.06	62	4.28	53	81	26	0	5	2	0
TAMPA	63	44	74	34	53	-8	0.45	-0.33	0.45	7.65	129	6.63	176	87	53	0	0	1	0
WEST PALM BEACH	72	46	80	35	59	-8	0.32	-0.40	0.32	3.74	58	2.17	52	86	38	0	0	1	0
GA ATLANTA	54	33	66	22	43	-1	0.00	-1.19	0.00	16.56	122	11.08	145	66	32	0	4	0	0
AUGUSTA	59	35	71	23	47	0	0.00	-1.06	0.00	8.83	86	4.30	65	72	29	0	3	0	0
MACON	59	34	72	21	47	-2	0.00	-1.19	0.00	8.81	75	6.45	87	70	28	0	4	0	0
SAVANNAH	62	39	73	27	51	-1	0.31	-0.49	0.31	4.07	48	3.18	57	76	27	0	3	1	0
HI HILO	76	62	79	60	69	-3	1.39	-1.23	0.70	19.68	71	15.58	99	79	55	0	0	3	1
HONOLULU	76	64	80	61	70	-3	0.05	-0.49	0.05	3.59	41	3.59	72	74	48	0	0	1	0
KAHULUI	75	63	77	58	69	-2	0.10	-0.60	0.08	4.85	52	2.72	45	75	55	0	0	2	0
LIHUE	72	62	74	59	67	-4	0.31	-0.48	0.29	13.11	100	6.34	79	73	52	0	0	2	0
ID BOISE	53	32	58	29	43	7	0.16	-0.10	0.16	4.06	118	1.92	92	85	42	0	5	1	0
LEWISTON	49	30	52	27	39	0	0.34	0.12	0.34	3.84	125	2.57	140	96	55	0	7	1	0
POCATELLO	50	25	54	22	37	8	0.01	-0.21	0.01	3.28	122	1.31	83	90	39	0	7	1	0
IL CHICAGO	33	19	36	16	25	1	0.00	-0.32	0.00	2.19	46	1.59	70	85	58	0	7	0	0
MOLINE	33	22	41	11	27	3	0.04	-0.24	0.03	2.84	64	2.37	109	83	59	0	7	2	0
PEORIA	34	22	42	13	28	2	0.05	-0.28	0.05	1.89	40	1.58	69	85	60	0	7	1	0
QUINCY	36	20	52	6	28	0	0.00	-0.34	0.00	2.63	59	2.40	114	86	56	0	7	0	0
ROCKFORD	30	17	37	8	24	2	0.03	-0.24	0.03	1.89	48	1.42	76	88	60	0	7	1	0
SPRINGFIELD	36	24	45	15	30	2	0.07	-0.35	0.07	2.88	55	1.55	63	87	61	0	7	1	0
IN EVANSVILLE	43	26	50	17	34	-3	0.09	-0.74	0.09	6.79	78	3.61	73	82	47	0	6	1	0
FORT WAYNE	32	18	37	14	25	0	0.12	-0.34	0.08	4.04	69	2.80	95	86	63	0	7	3	0
INDIANAPOLIS	34	22	40	17	28	-1	0.08	-0.52	0.07	7.06	101	4.34	118	93	62	0	7	2	0
SOUTH BEND	31	19	36	9	25	-1	0.46	0.01	0.11	4.27	65	3.38	72	86	62	0	7	5	0
IA DES MOINES	35	18	49	3	26	3	0.08	-0.16	0.04	3.07	107	3.07	206	86	56	0	7	2	0
SIOUX CITY	39	18	52	2	29	5	0.00	-0.16	0.00	1.42	86	1.10	126	83	48	0	7	0	0
WATERLOO	30	18	40	4	24	4	0.00	-0.26	0.00	3.31	87	2.15	160	85	63	0	7	0	0
KS CONCORDIA	51	22	63	7	37	6	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.81	47	0.55	61	65	24	0	5	0	0
DODGE CITY	59	21	71	7	40	5	0.00	-0.15	0.00	1.04	72	0.44	56	53	17	0	6	0	0
GOODLAND	57	19	65	9	38	6	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.50	52	0.35	64	57	18	0	7	0	0
TOPEKA	49	22	62	9	36	4	0.00	-0.24	0.00	1.34	46	0.75	51	69	29	0	7	0	0
WICHITA	56	22	70	9	39	4	0.00	-0.26	0.00	0.71	36	0.00	0	62	23	0	6	0	0
KY BOWLING GREEN	45	26	55	16	36	-1	0.00	-1.02	0.00	8.53	76	6.17	99	87	45	0	6	0	0
LEXINGTON	40	23	49	14	32	-3	0.10	-0.69	0.07	7.64	98	4.92	105	83	44	0	6	3	0
LOUISVILLE	41	27	52	19	34	-1	0.07	-0.74	0.04	7.93	95	4.63	98	84	45	0	6	2	0
LA BATON ROUGE	63	37	73	34	50	-3	0.00	-1.41	0.00	10.58	76	5.20	63	92	29	0	3	0	0
LAKE CHARLES	65	41	75	28	53	0	0.00	-0.89	0.00	9.40	80	3.95	44	83	29	0	2	0	0
NEW ORLEANS	64	41	74	28	52	-2	0.00	-1.54	0.00	10.68	74	5.60	64	82	27	0	1	0	0
SHREVEPORT	65	39	77	25	52	1	0.00	-1.05	0.00	7.46	64	2.28	34	64	23	0	3	0	0

Based on 1961-90 normals.

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 17, 1996

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
ME CARIBOU	15	-5	23	-18	5	-6	0.31	-0.16	0.16	7.84	104	5.24	147	81	60	0	7	3	0
PORTLAND	25	7	31	-6	16	-7	0.57	-0.36	0.30	10.22	101	6.09	110	89	51	0	7	3	0
MD BALTIMORE	40	25	53	17	32	-2	0.77	-0.00	0.63	11.17	134	8.49	172	81	43	0	6	2	1
SALISBURY	42	26	59	17	34	-3	0.21	-0.66	0.21	8.45	90	5.76	101	77	44	0	6	1	0
MA BOSTON	32	19	43	5	26	-4	1.07	0.16	0.40	12.15	124	8.96	155	82	48	0	6	4	0
CHATHAM	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	-	-	-
MI ALPENA	24	0	35	-11	12	-6	0.49	0.19	0.30	3.80	86	2.44	103	85	56	0	7	4	0
DETROIT	28	13	37	6	20	-5	0.33	-0.20	0.16	3.06	55	2.19	80	83	59	0	7	3	0
FLINT	26	6	35	-8	16	-7	0.43	0.12	0.23	3.87	92	2.72	130	88	65	0	7	5	0
GRAND RAPIDS	28	12	34	4	20	-3	0.16	-0.17	0.10	3.07	56	1.54	58	88	64	0	7	3	0
HOUGHTON LAKE	26	6	30	-9	16	-2	0.27	-0.01	0.12	3.88	94	2.50	115	85	59	0	7	4	0
LANSING	28	9	35	-8	19	-2	0.15	-0.13	0.09	2.09	50	1.02	47	88	57	0	7	3	0
MARQUETTE	21	-5	27	-13	8	-6	0.62	0.21	0.30	9.19	159	6.70	211	88	65	0	7	5	0
MUSKEGON	29	14	35	2	21	-3	0.26	-0.10	0.11	4.18	67	2.29	71	90	62	0	7	5	0
SAULT ST. MARIE	19	-4	26	-10	8	-6	0.34	-0.27	0.05	11.47	180	5.21	150	84	51	0	7	5	0
MN ALEXANDRIA	23	5	33	-9	14	1	0.00	-0.14	0.00	2.85	142	2.13	164	91	69	0	7	0	0
DULUTH	23	6	32	-8	15	3	0.12	-0.06	0.06	3.14	108	1.60	97	81	56	0	7	5	0
INT'L FALLS	20	0	26	-18	10	3	0.10	-0.04	0.04	3.32	157	2.06	165	89	61	0	7	3	0
MINNEAPOLIS	29	13	37	-3	21	3	0.02	-0.18	0.02	3.12	126	1.97	140	77	55	0	7	1	0
ROCHESTER	26	13	35	-2	20	3	0.02	-0.15	0.02	2.75	126	2.12	183	87	63	0	7	1	0
MS GREENWOOD	58	32	72	22	45	-2	0.00	-1.11	0.00	10.54	79	4.75	63	84	33	0	4	0	0
JACKSON	59	30	73	20	45	-2	0.00	-1.17	0.00	15.28	105	9.84	118	81	29	0	4	0	0
MERIDIAN	58	30	74	18	44	-4	0.00	-1.34	0.00	10.69	74	7.77	94	91	29	0	4	0	0
MO CAPE GIRARDEAU	47	27	63	19	37	1	0.18	-0.63	0.09	7.47	81	3.80	80	84	39	0	5	3	0
COLUMBIA	43	21	57	11	32	2	0.06	-0.37	0.06	4.59	90	2.97	121	78	45	0	7	1	0
KANSAS CITY	46	23	60	9	35	4	0.00	-0.25	0.00	1.46	45	1.10	66	64	33	0	6	0	0
SAINT LOUIS	43	26	58	17	34	1	0.13	-0.38	0.10	6.26	105	3.41	116	78	44	0	5	2	0
SPRINGFIELD	49	23	68	13	36	1	0.00	-0.46	0.00	6.18	114	3.70	136	80	30	0	6	0	0
MT BILLINGS	54	30	66	22	42	13	0.00	-0.15	0.00	1.22	59	0.87	67	73	30	0	5	0	0
GLASGOW	36	16	40	2	26	9	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.88	99	0.50	98	91	70	0	7	0	0
GREAT FALLS	54	26	63	18	40	13	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.59	28	0.47	38	76	30	0	5	0	0
HAVRE	43	24	49	16	33	12	0.00	-0.08	0.00	1.34	105	0.83	112	84	58	0	7	0	0
HELENA	46	21	54	13	34	7	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.93	64	0.58	67	86	54	0	7	0	0
KALISPELL	41	19	49	12	30	4	0.08	-0.20	0.08	6.51	164	4.31	192	92	59	0	7	1	0
MILES CITY	45	23	53	11	34	11	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.45	101	1.18	144	87	50	0	7	0	0
MISSOULA	43	23	50	16	33	4	0.04	-0.15	0.04	4.35	150	2.73	156	91	60	0	7	1	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	48	21	61	8	35	8	0.01	-0.16	0.01	1.33	86	1.07	130	81	35	0	7	1	0
LINCOLN	46	21	59	4	34	7	0.00	-0.16	0.00	1.28	74	1.02	119	77	32	0	6	0	0
NORFOLK	45	20	58	6	33	9	0.01	-0.17	0.01	1.39	86	0.92	105	78	39	0	6	1	0
NORTH PLATTE	52	15	63	4	34	6	0.00	-0.10	0.00	0.50	48	0.50	86	83	26	0	7	0	0
OMAHA	41	20	56	4	31	4	0.02	-0.16	--	1.91	89	1.37	123	79	41	0	7	-	-
SCOTTSBLUFF	53	17	63	10	35	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.38	106	0.83	115	77	25	0	7	0	0
VALENTINE	48	20	58	5	34	7	0.11	-0.02	0.11	0.68	55	0.62	86	82	37	0	7	1	0
NV ELY	60	24	66	20	42	13	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.97	52	0.51	46	85	19	0	7	0	0
LAS VEGAS	76	50	81	45	63	12	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.13	12	0.12	16	43	18	0	0	0	0
RENO	63	28	66	25	46	8	0.00	-0.25	0.00	4.04	150	1.79	104	88	19	0	5	0	0
WINNEMUCCA	60	27	63	24	44	8	0.00	-0.16	0.00	3.59	179	1.98	178	91	24	0	7	0	0
NH CONCORD	26	6	33	-3	16	-5	0.44	-0.19	0.26	7.44	103	5.47	135	87	44	0	7	3	0
NJ ATLANTIC CITY	38	23	51	14	30	-2	0.47	-0.27	0.47	7.68	89	6.18	116	79	48	0	6	1	0
NM ALBUQUERQUE	53	35	70	32	49	9	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.51	41	0.35	46	57	18	0	1	0	0
CLOVIS	65	32	76	22	48	8	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.56	46	0.36	54	56	16	0	3	0	0
ROSWELL	64	34	79	27	49	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	--	--	--	--	47	20	0	3	0	0
NY ALBANY	26	10	40	0	18	-5	0.48	-0.08	0.23	7.16	108	5.74	155	86	55	0	7	3	0
BINGHAMTON	24	8	40	-2	16	-6	0.21	-0.37	0.12	5.19	77	4.21	111	88	58	0	7	3	0
BUFFALO	24	8	41	4	16	-8	0.33	-0.25	0.24	7.89	101	4.22	103	89	64	0	7	4	0
NEW YORK	37	24	50	13	31	-2	0.63	-0.07	0.53	7.47	92	5.30	112	77	40	0	6	3	1
ROCHESTER	26	8	45	4	17	-7	0.18	-0.34	0.08	5.11	84	3.61	108	93	59	0	7	3	0
SYRACUSE	25	7	44	2	16	-7	0.20	-0.33	0.08	5.76	85	3.87	107	87	59	0	7	4	0
NC ASHEVILLE	45	27	61	17	36	-3	0.09	-1.01	0.07	10.77	99	9.35	145	80	38	0	6	2	0
CHARLOTTE	52	31	65	21	42	-1	0.04	-0.91	0.04	7.31	77	6.08	102	69	29	0	4	1	0
GREENSBORO	47	28	62	18	37	-2	0.14	-0.68	0.09	7.41	87	6.03	117	73	35	0	4	3	0
HATTERAS	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	-	-	-
NEW BERN	55	34	75	24	44	-1	0.11	-0.96	0.08	6.55	62	4.99	72	75	41	0	3	2	0
RALEIGH	50	30	67	18	40	-2	0.20	-0.73	0.20	7.69	86	5.80	102	75	36	0	4	1	0
WILMINGTON	55	36	71	25	45	0	0.27	-0.81	0.27	5.41	47	3.34	45	83	39	0	3	1	0
ND BISMARCK	30	13	51	-2	26	10	0.20	0.09	0.09	1.74	144	1.19	165	89	62	0	7	3	0
FARGO	25	6	35	-5	15	4	0.01	-0.18	0.01	2.70	170	1.95	205	87	70	0	7	1	0
GRAND FORKS	23	6	36	-5	15	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.75	107	0.98	99	90	67	0	7	0	0
WILLISTON	37	17	42	4	27	11	0.01	-0.10	0.01	1.51	109	0.83	104	84	62	0	7	1	0
OH AKRON-CANTON	27	12	38	4	19	-8	0.10	-0.44	0.05	4.99	78	4.12	121	91	61	0	7	3	0
CINCINNATI	35	21	44	15	28	-3	0.01	-0.64	0.01	7.99	111	4.59	113	84	48	0	7	1	0
CLEVELAND	28	16	39	10	22	-5	0.29	-0.25	0.12	4.68	73	3.22	98	89	60	0	7	5	0
COLUMBUS	33	21	41	16	27	0	0.13	-0.42	0.08	6.00	97	4.04	126	82	55	0	7	3	0
DAYTON	33	20	39	14	26	-3	0.00	-0.52	0.00	5.50	88	4.28	129	83	60	0	7	0	0

Based on 1961-90 normals.

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 17, 1996

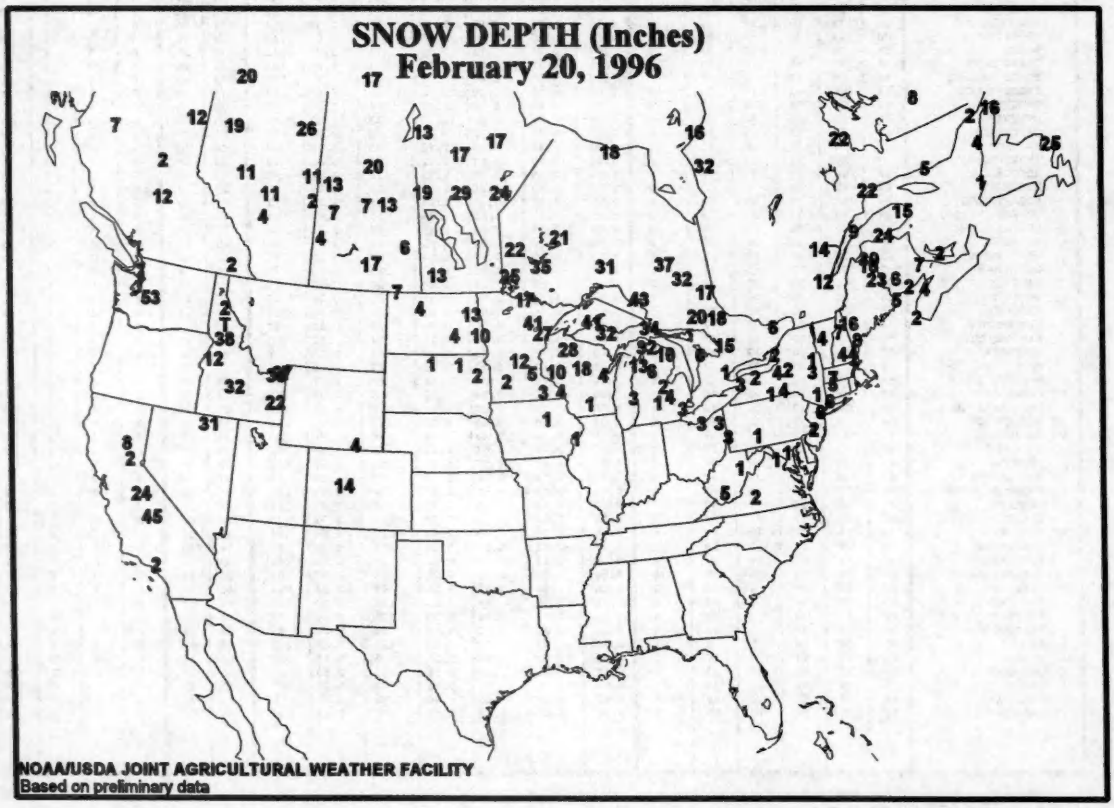
STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
TOLEDO	39	17	36	11	23	-2	0.07	-0.35	0.04	3.13	55	3.56	92	88	58	0	7	4	0
YOUNGSTOWN	37	10	46	3	19	-7	0.30	-0.19	0.12	4.96	80	3.34	101	93	58	0	7	4	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	61	29	80	19	45	5	0.00	-0.38	0.00	2.42	72	0.86	3	51	20	0	5	0	0
TULSA	59	29	73	17	44	4	0.00	-0.47	0.00	2.32	69	0.55	21	58	21	0	5	0	0
OR ASTORIA	52	38	72	32	50	6	0.68	-1.20	0.47	28.97	114	17.67	120	96	53	0	1	2	0
BURNS	50	22	55	19	36	7	0.23	0.04	0.23	4.95	190	2.43	166	94	52	0	4	1	0
MEDFORD	58	36	71	32	52	9	0.18	-0.30	0.18	14.49	201	6.81	174	94	25	0	4	1	0
PENDLETON	52	31	58	27	41	2	0.15	-0.13	0.12	4.75	134	2.97	134	95	46	0	6	2	0
PORTLAND	58	37	63	33	47	4	0.71	-0.24	0.70	20.56	148	14.49	186	82	42	0	0	2	1
SALEM	60	34	64	30	47	4	1.10	-0.01	0.92	25.06	161	17.78	203	95	34	0	4	2	1
PA ALLENTOWN	32	18	46	9	25	-4	0.03	-0.71	0.01	8.63	102	7.17	145	74	45	0	7	2	0
ERIE	35	11	40	4	18	-7	0.07	-0.49	0.04	7.09	100	3.86	109	88	66	0	7	3	0
HARRISBURG	34	23	46	16	29	-3	0.04	-0.69	0.03	9.31	117	6.67	142	73	40	0	6	3	0
PHILADELPHIA	36	22	50	16	29	-3	0.25	-0.51	0.25	7.26	81	5.11	96	77	43	0	6	1	0
PITTSBURGH	32	15	54	9	24	-5	0.53	-0.05	0.22	6.07	89	4.65	114	83	51	0	7	6	0
SCRANTON	30	13	43	3	22	-5	0.27	-0.26	0.11	8.13	138	6.91	204	81	48	0	7	5	0
RI PROVIDENCE	32	15	45	5	23	-6	0.48	-0.41	0.27	9.87	95	7.70	127	82	52	0	7	3	0
SC CHARLESTON	60	38	72	26	49	-1	0.22	-0.59	0.20	3.09	36	2.07	39	76	30	0	3	2	0
COLUMBIA	58	35	72	23	47	0	0.00	-1.02	0.00	5.58	53	3.39	49	69	29	0	4	0	0
FLORENCE	57	34	74	21	46	-1	0.26	-0.53	0.26	4.48	52	2.79	51	77	30	0	4	1	0
GREENVILLE	54	29	67	18	42	-1	0.05	-1.04	0.05	9.89	91	7.84	118	71	28	0	4	1	0
SD ABERDEEN	35	13	43	-2	24	8	0.29	0.15	0.28	2.06	142	1.59	169	86	59	0	7	2	0
HURON	39	18	46	7	28	9	0.07	-0.09	0.06	1.35	114	1.07	149	85	57	0	7	2	0
RAPID CITY	49	21	59	9	35	8	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.96	84	0.82	126	71	34	0	7	0	0
SIOUX FALLS	38	15	46	-2	26	7	0.08	-0.07	0.05	1.20	78	1.10	134	82	51	0	7	2	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	50	28	63	17	39	-2	0.00	-1.18	0.00	13.59	98	8.77	114	73	38	0	5	0	0
KNOXVILLE	45	29	58	16	37	-3	0.11	-0.89	0.10	12.10	109	9.57	146	77	43	0	6	2	0
MEMPHIS	54	32	68	22	43	-1	0.00	-1.08	0.00	11.16	93	5.57	89	63	30	0	5	0	0
NASHVILLE	49	27	63	14	38	-2	0.19	-0.75	0.19	6.84	66	4.60	79	75	37	0	5	1	0
TX ABILENE	66	36	83	26	51	4	0.00	-0.29	0.00	0.98	36	0.75	44	44	16	0	2	0	0
AMARILLO	62	27	79	16	45	6	0.00	-0.15	0.00	1.02	82	0.43	52	52	15	0	5	0	0
AUSTIN	69	44	83	33	56	4	0.00	-0.55	0.00	0.65	13	0.16	5	64	21	0	0	0	0
BEAUMONT	66	42	75	32	54	0	0.00	-0.83	0.00	13.92	119	2.78	40	93	34	0	1	0	0
BROWNSVILLE	73	51	86	43	62	0	0.17	-0.10	0.12	1.24	35	0.25	11	88	33	0	0	2	0
CORPUS CHRISTI	72	44	84	36	58	0	0.00	-0.51	0.00	0.72	17	0.09	3	72	26	0	0	0	0
DEL RIO	71	44	84	38	58	4	0.00	-0.36	0.00	0.49	16	0.00	0	51	18	0	0	0	0
EL PASO	67	39	76	36	53	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.51	41	0.27	41	43	17	0	0	0	0
FORT WORTH	65	37	85	27	51	4	0.00	-0.60	0.00	3.14	59	1.09	34	50	20	0	2	0	0
GALVESTON	63	52	71	45	58	3	0.00	-0.56	0.00	7.31	89	1.74	37	78	36	0	0	0	0
HOUSTON	70	41	79	33	55	2	0.00	-0.91	0.00	6.04	56	1.05	17	73	20	0	0	0	0
LUBBOCK	64	29	79	20	47	4	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.65	50	0.20	26	45	13	0	6	0	0
MIDLAND	65	34	79	26	50	2	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.31	24	0.08	10	48	14	0	3	0	0
SAN ANGELO	68	35	83	23	52	4	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.38	17	0.16	12	48	17	0	3	0	0
SAN ANTONIO	70	41	82	31	56	2	0.00	-0.46	0.00	0.63	15	0.00	0	57	17	0	1	0	0
VICTORIA	70	40	81	32	55	0	0.05	-0.65	0.05	3.00	37	0.13	3	86	26	0	1	1	0
WACO	67	35	87	27	51	2	0.00	-0.52	0.00	2.06	43	1.00	35	56	20	0	4	0	0
WICHITA FALLS	64	33	82	23	49	5	0.00	-0.49	0.00	1.65	41	0.91	37	67	18	0	4	0	0
UT CEDAR CITY	43	29	68	25	46	11	0.00	-0.22	0.00	1.12	60	0.84	71	79	23	0	5	0	0
SALT LAKE CITY	45	19	47	15	32	-2	0.00	-0.30	0.00	4.57	141	3.37	185	98	46	0	7	0	0
VT BURLINGTON	22	5	39	-2	14	-6	0.04	-0.35	0.04	6.86	132	4.21	153	78	53	0	7	1	0
VA NORFOLK	47	31	71	20	39	-1	0.51	-0.34	0.48	9.08	100	7.22	123	71	39	0	4	2	0
RICHMOND	46	27	64	10	36	-2	0.07	-0.71	0.04	7.65	91	5.94	116	73	37	0	4	2	0
ROANOKE	43	25	58	17	34	-3	0.29	-0.47	0.23	11.11	151	8.80	200	78	35	0	5	2	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	53	36	70	30	49	8	1.30	-1.84	1.13	35.17	93	21.23	96	91	53	0	2	2	1
SEATTLE-TACOMA	59	39	65	36	49	6	0.61	-0.38	0.59	20.62	149	14.24	180	86	55	0	0	2	1
SPOKANE	47	26	50	23	37	3	0.40	0.04	0.40	6.37	118	3.63	125	89	57	0	6	1	0
YAKIMA	51	26	55	23	38	2	0.16	-0.02	--	3.78	122	2.93	171	84	48	0	6	-	-
WV BECKLEY	33	19	52	11	26	-6	0.49	-0.24	0.23	10.04	127	7.60	163	93	56	0	7	6	0
CHARLESTON	40	24	61	17	32	-3	0.14	-0.61	0.07	8.69	107	6.60	141	86	43	0	6	3	0
HUNTINGTON	40	25	60	17	32	-1	0.09	-0.67	0.06	9.61	115	6.78	141	85	49	0	6	3	0
PARKERSBURG	37	21	54	13	29	-4	0.16	-0.53	0.10	6.71	86	4.87	100	92	46	0	7	3	0
WI GREEN BAY	26	10	35	1	18	0	0.10	-0.14	0.06	3.16	98	1.90	112	83	49	0	7	3	0
LACROSSE	29	17	37	4	23	4	0.06	-0.13	--	4.01	149	3.19	222	78	53	0	7	-	-
MADISON	30	15	36	7	23	3	0.05	-0.20	0.04	3.37	100	2.60	151	80	55	0	7	2	0
MILWAUKEE	31	18	37	13	24	2	0.05	-0.29	0.03	2.18	46	1.70	71	78	50	0	7	2	0
WAUSAU	25	10	32	-1	18	1	0.17	-0.03	0.09	3.29	117	2.29	165	79	48	0	7	2	0
WY CASPER	51	23	61	17	37	11	0.00	-0.14	0.00	1.31	85	0.96	110	69	26	0	6	0	0
CHEYENNE	52	23	60	14	37	8	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.59	60	0.39	68	62	18	0	6	0	0
LANDER	51	21	60	13	36	11	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.98	72	0.67	85	65	27	0	7	0	0
SHERIDAN	54	23	63	18	39	12	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.96	51	0.67	59	71	31	0	7	0	0
PR SAN JUAN	86	71	89	70	79	2	0.06	-0.47	0.06	11.07	125	7.22	174	86	55	0	0	1	0

Based on 1961-90 normals.

National Agricultural Summary

HIGHLIGHTS for February 12 - 18, 1996

Producers delayed planting of summer crops in the southern Great Plains due to extremely dry soil conditions. Some areas of Texas have not had measurable precipitation since late December, forcing livestock producers to burn prickly pear cactus for cattle to feed on. Warm, windy weather depleted soil moisture supplies and caused some small grain greening from Texas to the Kansas border. Poor wheat stands, with inadequate root structures and dry soil conditions, encouraged wind erosion in the central Great Plains. Heavy rains in Oregon triggered mudslides and flooding that damaged irrigation structures in the Hood River area. Standing water remained in some small grain fields in California, while cotton fields were treated with herbicides and prepared for planting. Freezing temperatures in central Florida caused little or no damage to citrus. Later in the week, heavy frost damaged some vegetable acreage in Dade County, while freezing temperatures around Lake Okeechobee killed some young vegetables.



International Weather and Crop Summary

February 11 - 17, 1996

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Overwintering conditions continued favorable for dormant winter grains.

EUROPE: Widespread precipitation accompanied a warming trend over northern Europe, improving overwintering conditions for winter crops.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Light to moderate showers over Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia kept winter grains well watered.

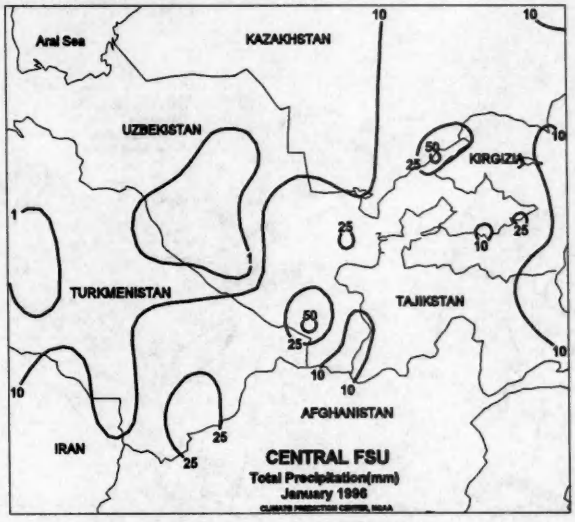
SOUTH AFRICA: Inundating rain brought additional flooding to the eastern corn belt and coastal sugarcane areas.

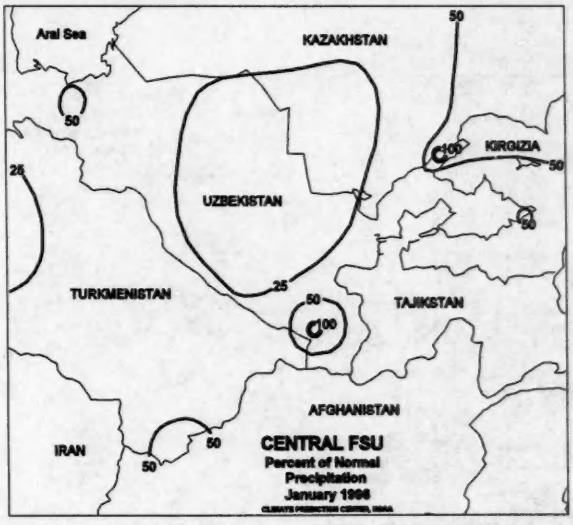
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Drier weather eased flooding across the east-central Philippines as seasonable showers prevailed across Java.

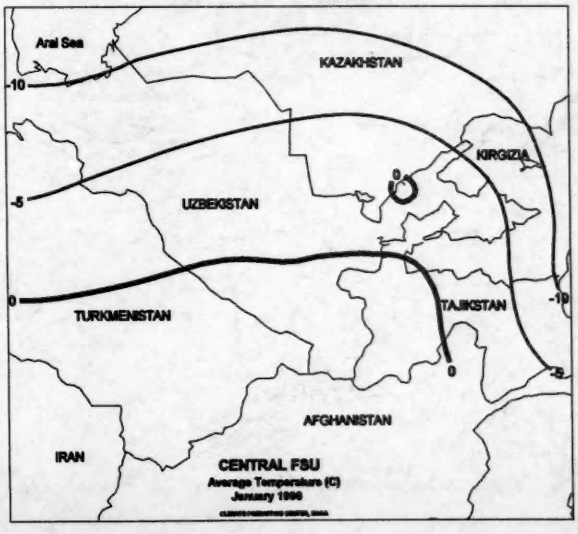
AUSTRALIA: Warm, dry weather dominated the main growing areas, boosting summer crop growth but stressing livestock and pastures.

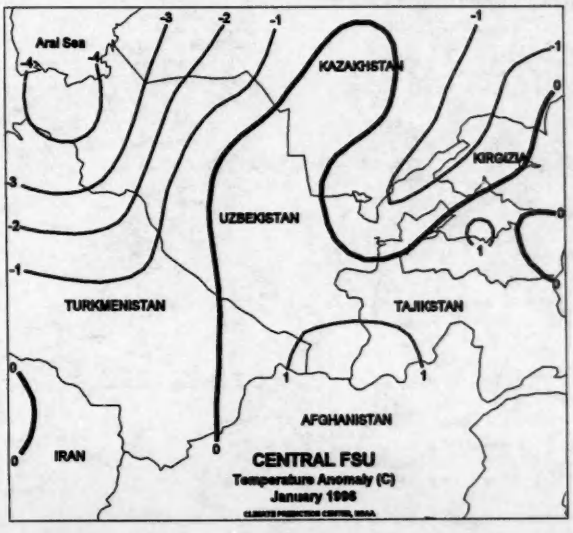
EASTERN ASIA: Warm weather caused winter wheat to lose winter hardiness across the North China Plain. Late-week snow provided beneficial moisture for winter wheat across the southern North China Plain.

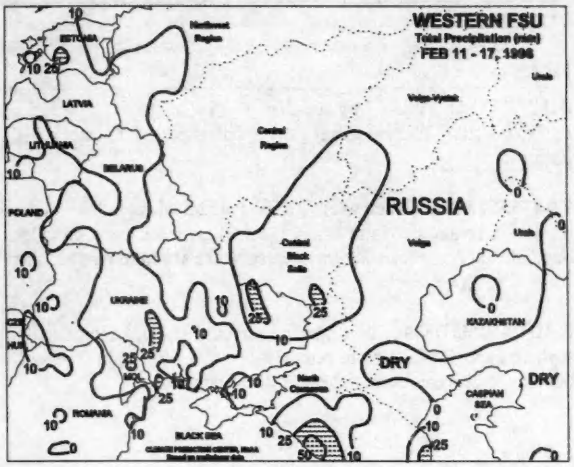
SOUTH AMERICA: In Argentina, dryness stressed reproductive soybeans and filling corn in central Argentina. In southern Brazil, lighter showers continued to benefit filling soybeans.





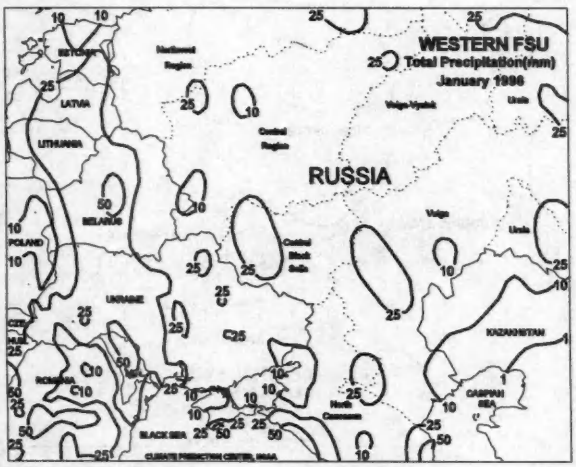


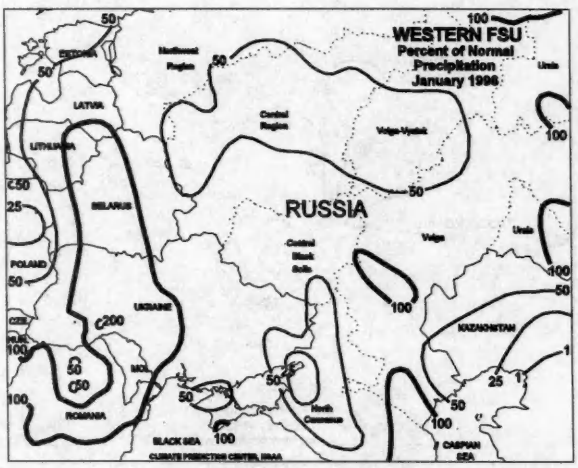


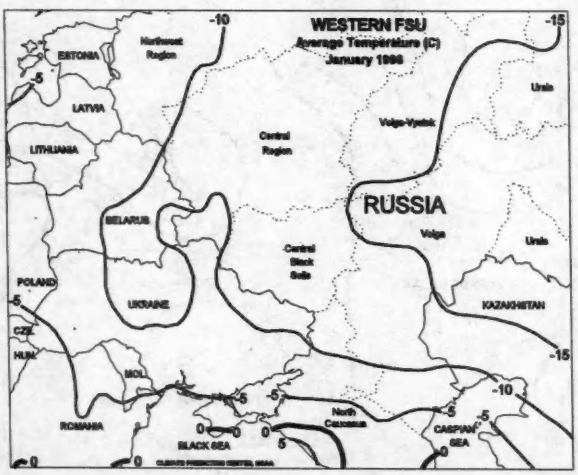


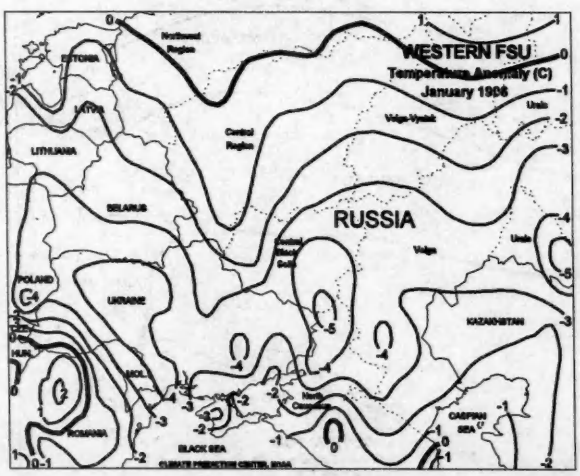
FSU-WESTERN

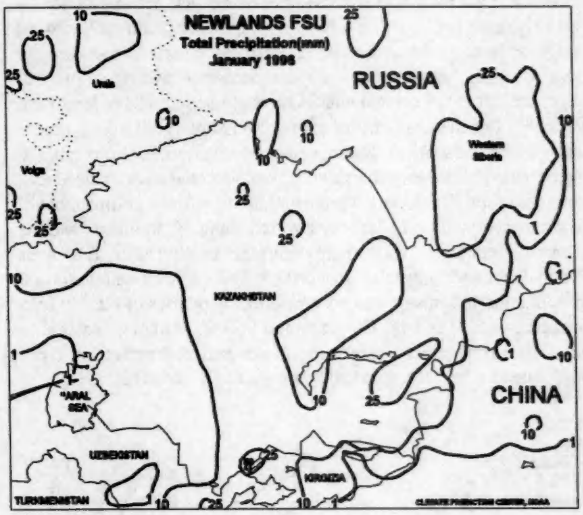
Widespread light precipitation fell over most winter grain areas. The moisture (5-25 mm) fell mainly in the form of rain in the southern Ukraine and western areas in the North Caucasus region in Russia. Light to moderate snow (2-28 mm liquid equivalent) increased snow cover over the remainder of Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics. Although unusually cold weather continued over most of the region, snow cover was adequate to protect the crop in areas where temperatures fell below the threshold for potential winterkill. In January, overwintering conditions continued favorable for winter grains in most areas. Below-normal temperatures covered winter grains over most of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics, maintaining a moderate to deep snow cover. There were periods of bitterly cold weather during the month. In most areas, however, snow cover was adequate to protect winter grains from extreme cold. Below-normal precipitation fell over Russia, eastern Ukraine, and the Baltics in January, while near- to above-normal precipitation fell over the western half of Ukraine and central Belarus.

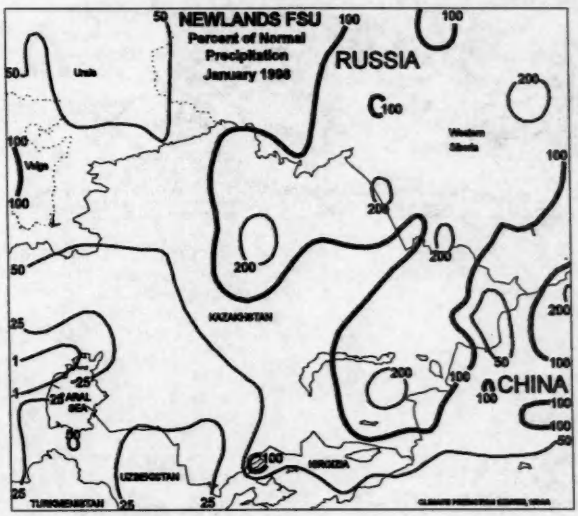


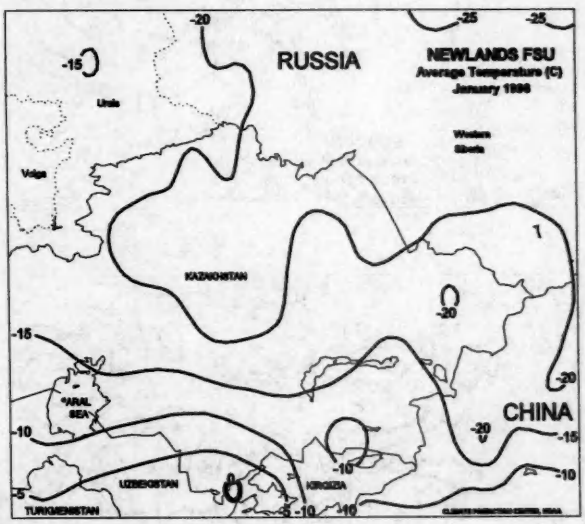


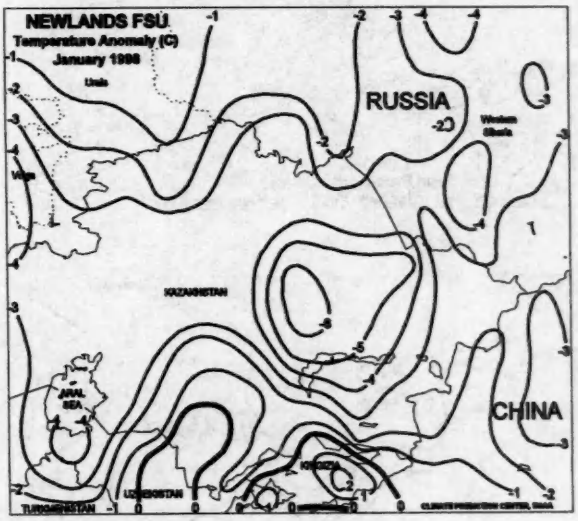


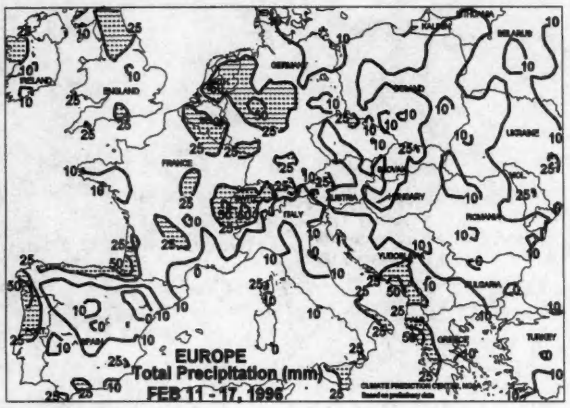



NEWLANDS FSU
Total Precipitation(mm)
January 1996
RUSSIA
Urals
Volga
Western Siberia
KAZAKHSTAN
ARAL SEA
UZBEKISTAN
KIRGIZIA
TURKMENISTAN
CHINA


NEWLANDS FSU
Percent of Normal Precipitation
January 1996
RUSSIA
Urals
Volga
Western Siberia
KAZAKHSTAN
ARAL SEA
UZBEKISTAN
KIRGIZIA
TURKMENISTAN
CHINA

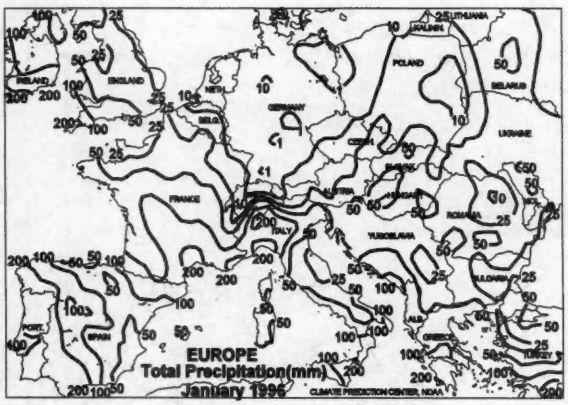

RUSSIA
NEWLANDS FSU
Average Temperature (C)
January 1996
Urals
Volga
Western Siberia
KAZAKHSTAN
ARAL SEA
UZBEKISTAN
KIRGIZIA
TURKMENISTAN
CHINA

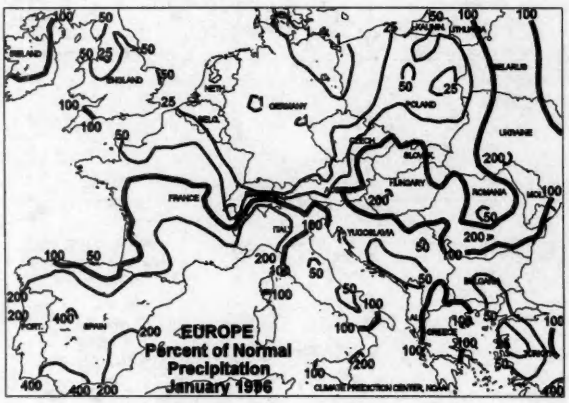

NEWLANDS FSU
Temperature Anomaly (C)
January 1996
RUSSIA
Urals
Volga
Western Siberia
KAZAKHSTAN
ARAL SEA
UZBEKISTAN
KIRGIZIA
TURKMENISTAN
CHINA

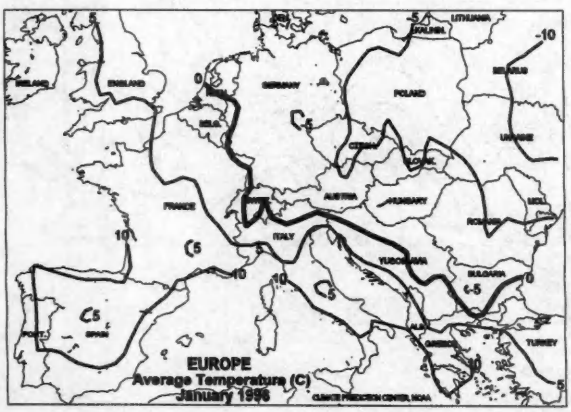


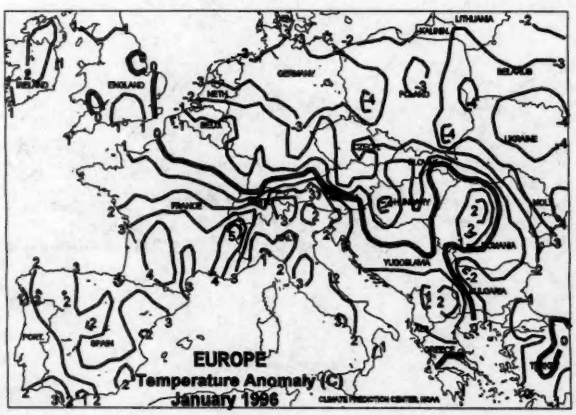
EUROPE

Widespread precipitation accompanied a warming trend over northern Europe, improving overwintering conditions for winter crops. Greatest amounts of rain and snow (16-29 mm) fell over England, northern France, the Benelux countries, and western Germany, reversing January's dry pattern in these areas. Lesser amounts of precipitation (4-15 mm), mainly snow, fell over eastern Germany and Poland. Furthermore, weekly temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal over northern Europe, rising well above last week's bitterly cold readings. Farther south, light precipitation (2-25 mm) lingered over Spain and Italy, maintaining favorable moisture for winter grain development. In January, well-above-normal precipitation over Portugal and Spain continued to relieve long-term drought. Greatest amounts of rain (100-400 mm) fell over Portugal and western and southern Spain, causing some flooding. Overall, the precipitation helped to recharge subsoil moisture and reservoir levels, and benefited developing winter grains. In eastern Europe, above-normal precipitation in January covered Hungary, Romania, and the Slovak Republic, while below-normal precipitation fell over Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. In northern Europe, well-below-normal precipitation in January was accompanied by periods of bitterly cold weather, especially over Germany and Poland. Although a variable snow cover in most winter crop areas provided protection from widespread winterkill, localized damage likely occurred.

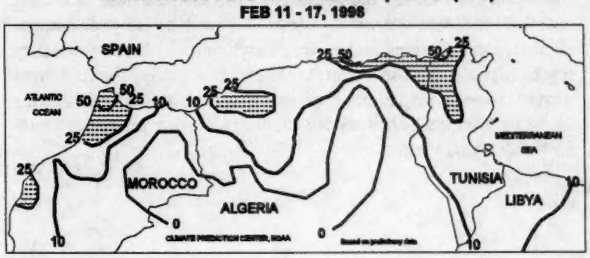








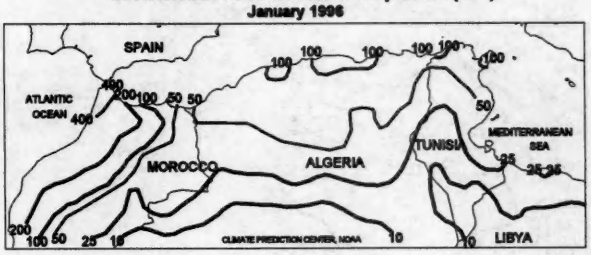
NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)
FEB 11 - 17, 1996



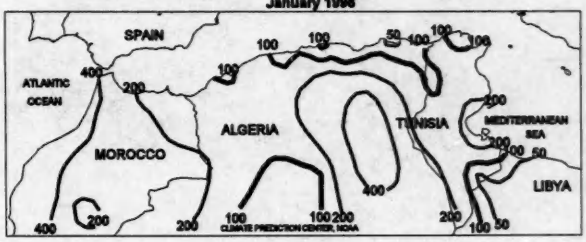
NORTHWEST AFRICA

Light to moderate showers (9-36 mm) continued over winter grain areas in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia, keeping crops well watered. In January, the wettest weather in at least the past 46 years soaked winter grain areas in Morocco. Precipitation amounts of 100 to 400 mm created the likelihood for some flooding, especially along the coast, where rainfall was the heaviest. Overall, the precipitation benefited winter grains in the vegetative stage of development. Farther east, rainfall increased in January over winter grain areas in Algeria and Tunisia. Previous dryness in November and December in these areas created limited moisture for winter grain germination and establishment. January precipitation was above normal, boosting yield prospects for winter grains in the vegetative stage.

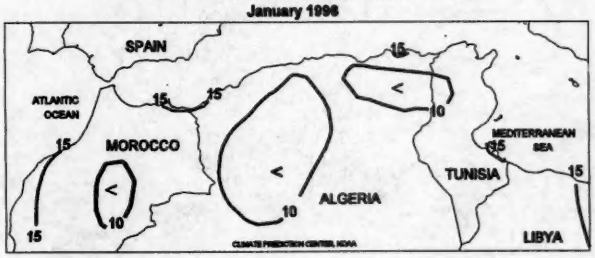
NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)
January 1996



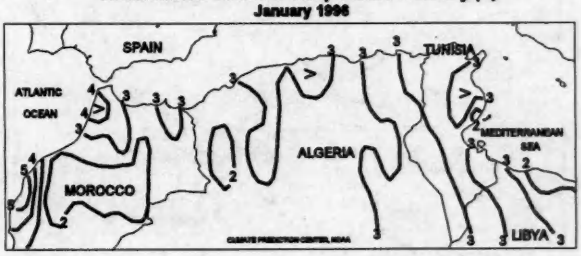
NORTHWEST AFRICA Percent of Normal Precipitation
January 1996



NORTHWEST AFRICA Average Temperature (C)
January 1996

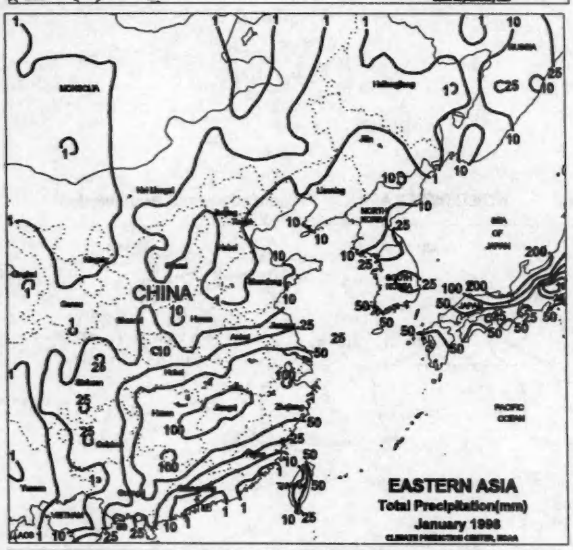


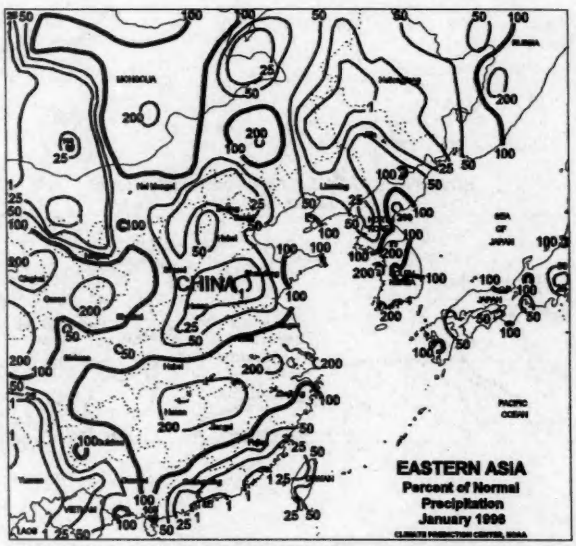
NORTHWEST AFRICA Temperature Anomaly (C)
January 1996

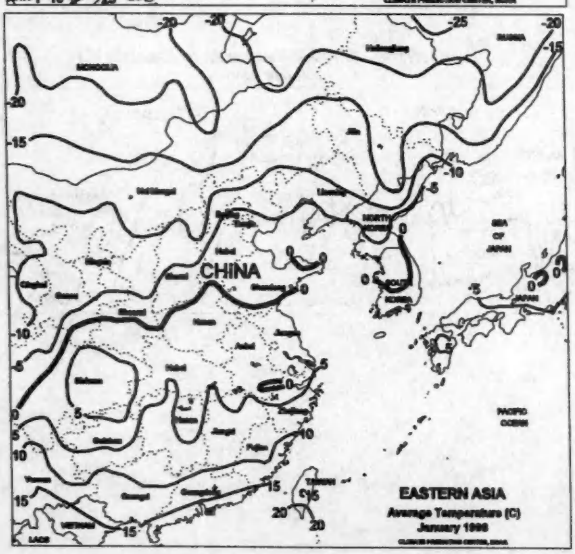


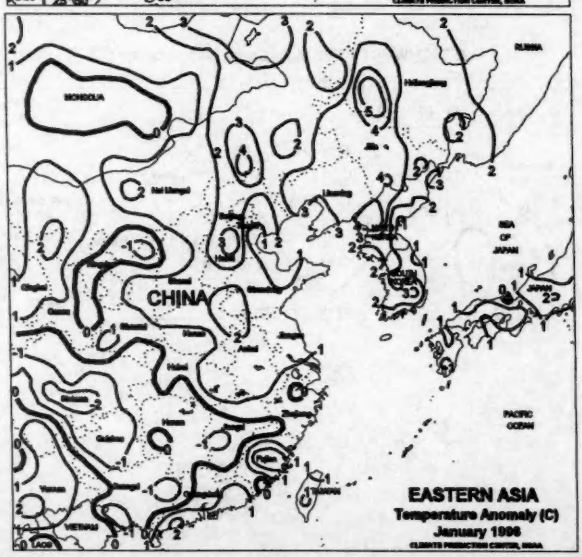
EASTERN ASIA

For most of the week, warm weather (average temperatures 3-6 degrees C above normal) caused winter wheat to lose some hardiness. However, late in the week, cooler weather slowed the greening process. Along with the cool weather, snow (5-15 mm water equivalent) fell across the southern North China Plain, providing beneficial moisture for winter wheat. Despite the late-week cooler weather, winter grains and oilseeds continued to break dormancy across Sichuan and the Yangtze Valley. In January, above-normal rainfall boosted irrigation supplies for winter grains and oilseeds across the Yangtze Valley. Seasonably dry weather prevailed across the North China Plain.



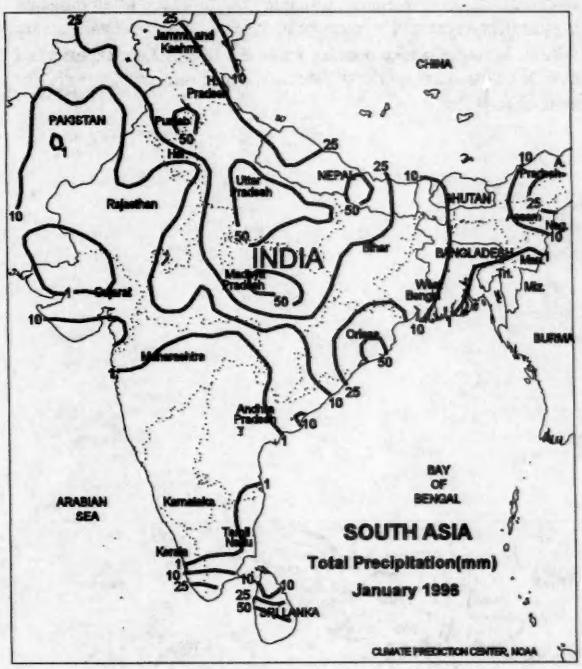


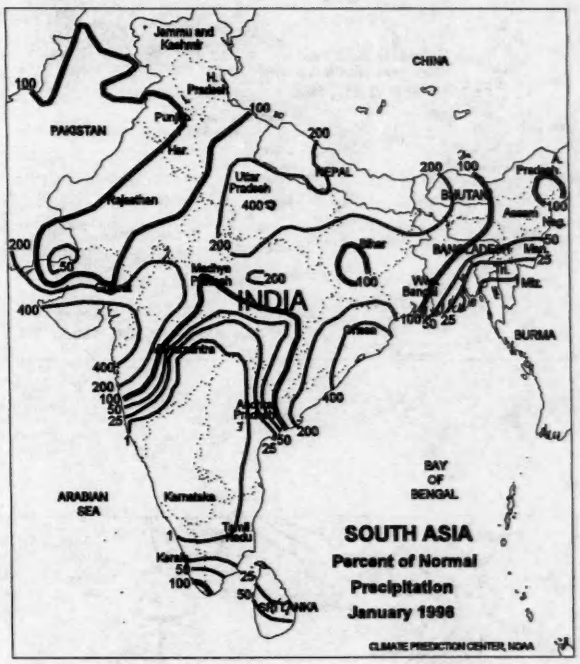


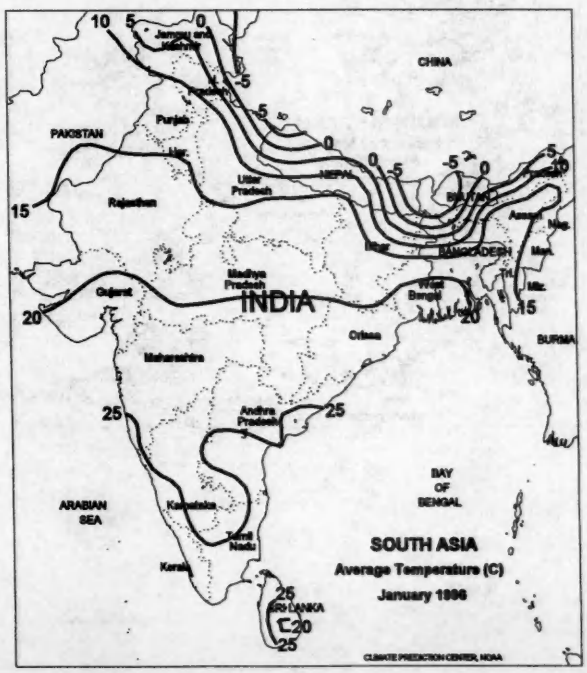


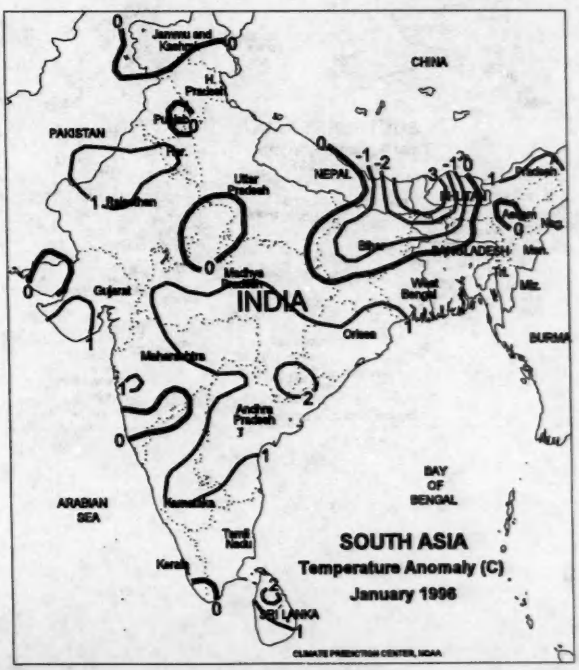
SOUTH ASIA

During January, widespread rain (25-50 mm or more) fell across primary winter crop areas of central and northern India. In the north, much of the rain came over a short period in late-January. However, the rain in central crop areas fell throughout the month, favoring rainfed crops. In the northwest (north-central India and Pakistan), the rainfall was beneficial but below normal. However, this area continued receiving timely showers into February, benefiting vegetative to heading winter wheat. January temperatures averaged near normal in the main winter crop areas, except for parts of the east (Bihar) that trended below normal. Farther south, dry, warm weather continued to dominate southern India, increasing irrigation demands for secondary grains, oilseeds, and cotton.



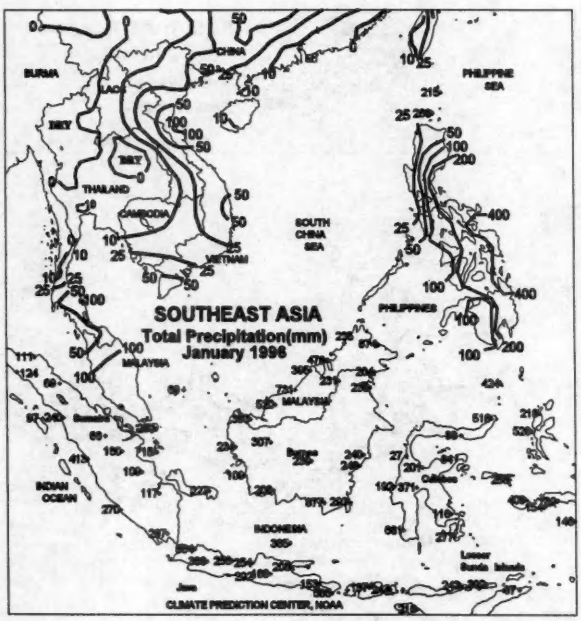


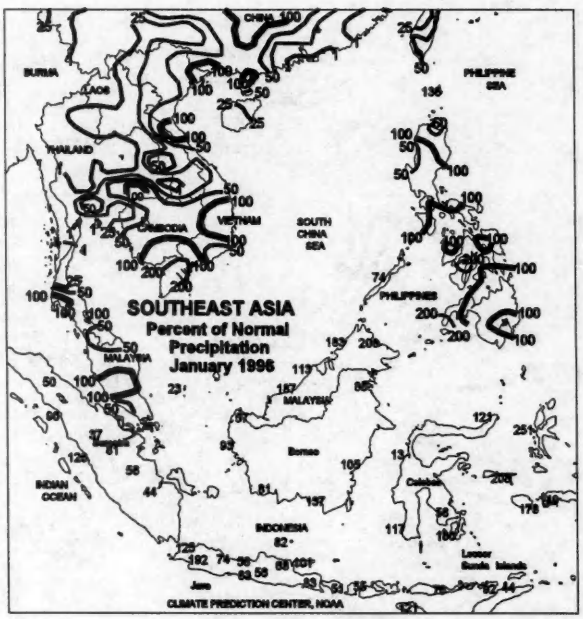


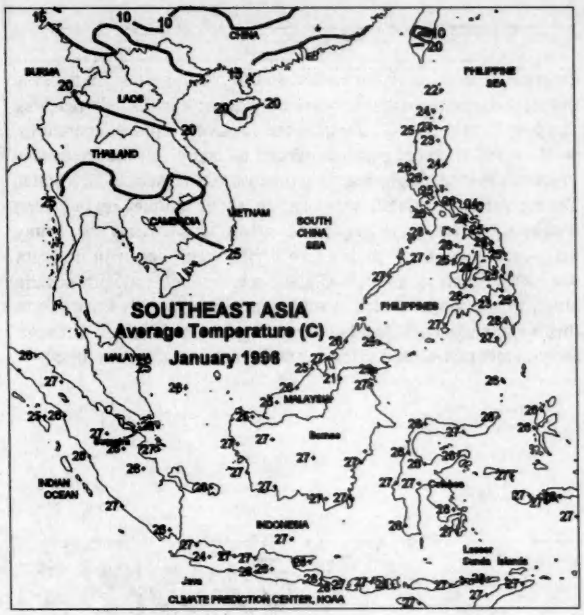


SOUTHEAST ASIA

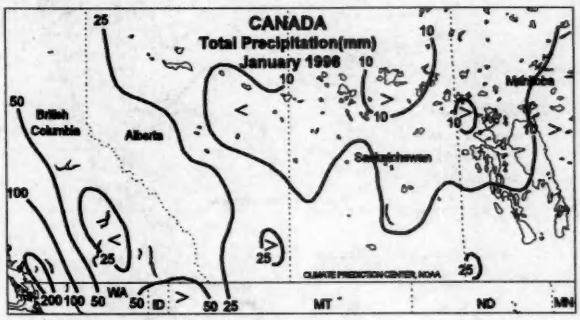
Drier weather (5-25 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 50 mm) eased wetness across the east-central Philippines. Dry weather prevailed across Indochina, while seasonable showers maintained rice irrigation supplies across Java. In January, above-normal rainfall caused additional flooding across the east-central Philippines. Elsewhere in the Philippines, near-normal rainfall maintained irrigation supplies for secondary crops. Central and southern Vietnam reported near- to above-normal January rainfall, increasing moisture supplies for vegetative winter-spring rice. In eastern Java, January rainfall averaged above normal, while the rest of Java experienced near- to below-normal rainfall. Adequate moisture supplies exist for main-season rice.

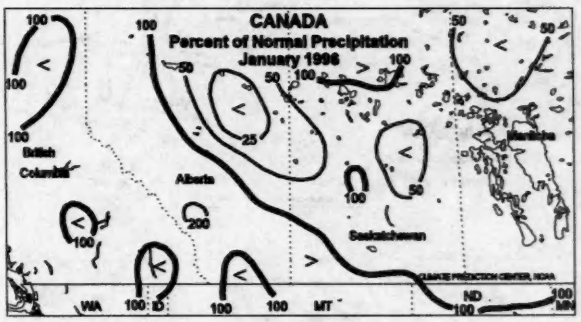


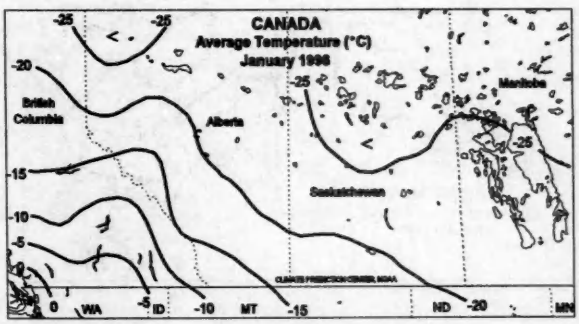


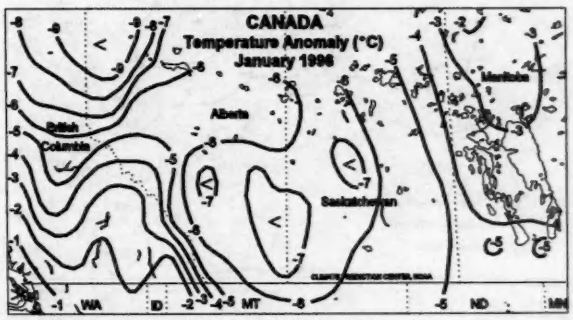

SOUTHEAST ASIA
Average Temperature (C)
January 1996
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA

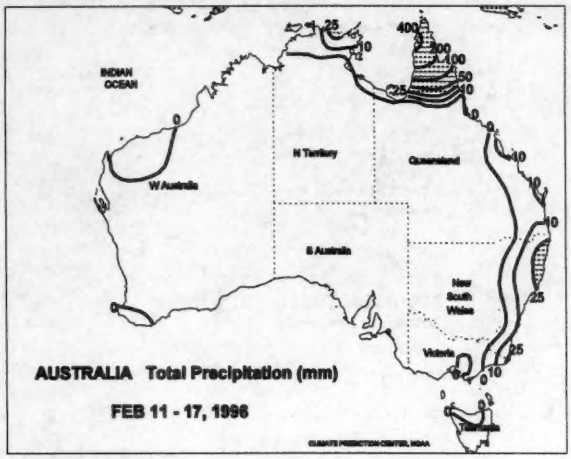
SOUTHEAST ASIA
Temperature Anomaly
January 1996
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA


CANADA
Total Precipitation(mm)
January 1996
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA


CANADA
Percent of Normal Precipitation
January 1996
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA

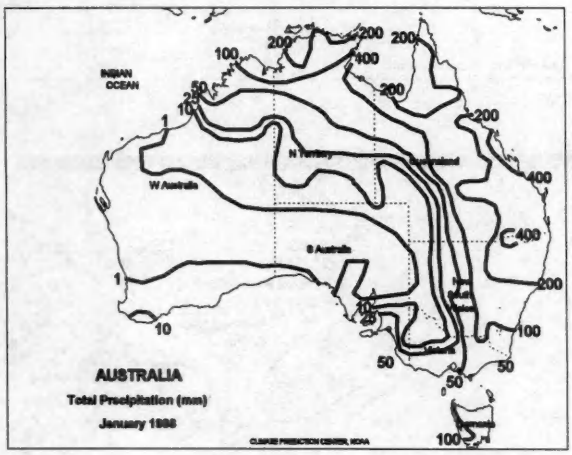

CANADA
Average Temperature (°C)
January 1996

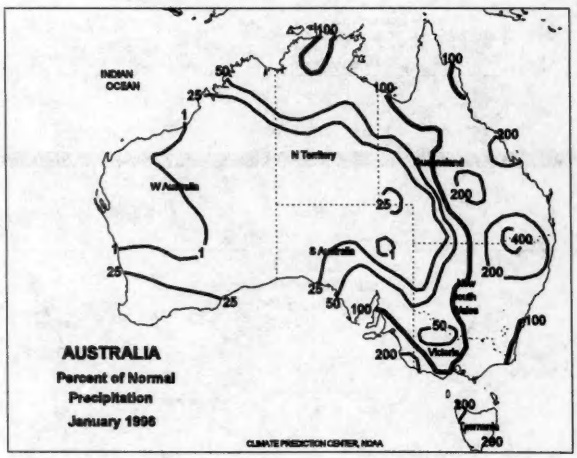

CANADA
Temperature Anomaly (°C)
January 1996

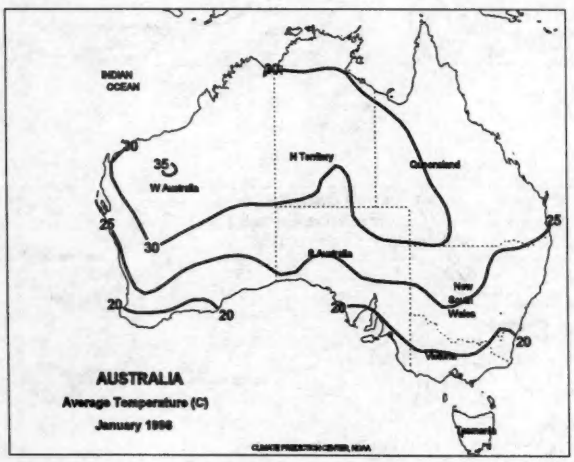


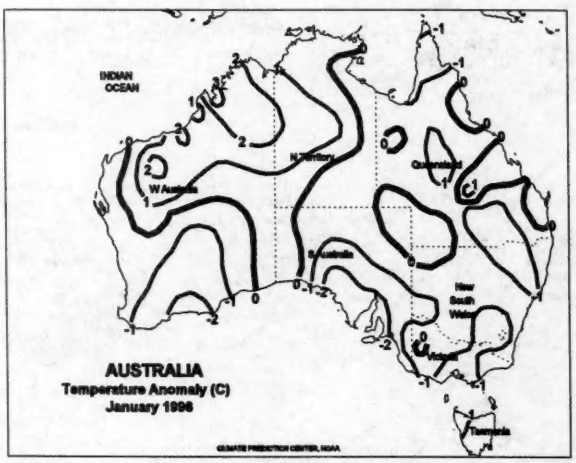
AUSTRALIA

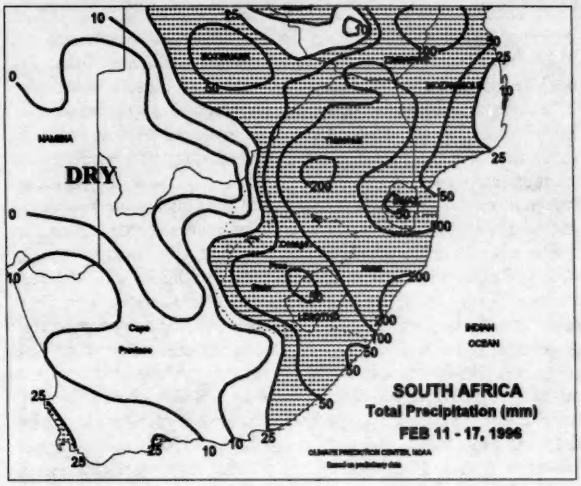
Dry weather dominated the main crop and pasture areas. In the east, temperatures averaged near to below normal, with highs only reaching the low to mid 30's C. Despite the relatively mild temperatures, western and southern pastures needed moisture. In the southwest, unseasonable heat (highs reaching the low 40's C) stressed livestock. During January, rainfall was near to above normal in the main sorghum, cotton, and sugarcane areas, due mainly to heavy early-month rains. A mid-month drying trend began in northern summer crop areas, as well as some western and southern pasture areas, where rain is needed. Conditions were generally favorable in the west and south for late winter grain harvesting, although early-month rain caused some minor disruptions in the southeast.





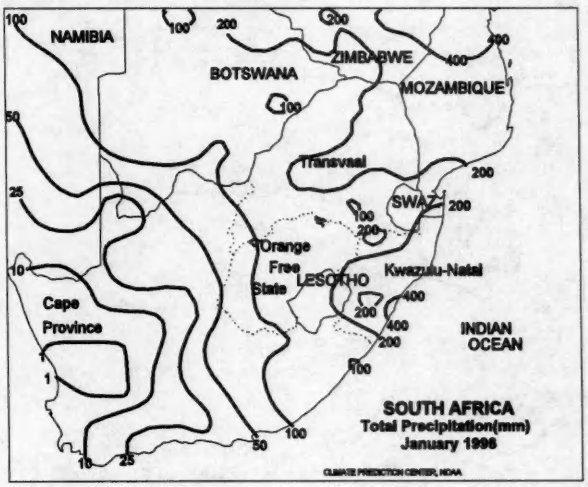


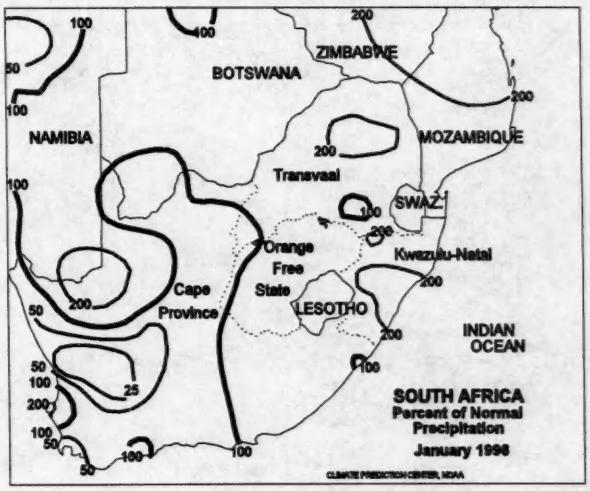


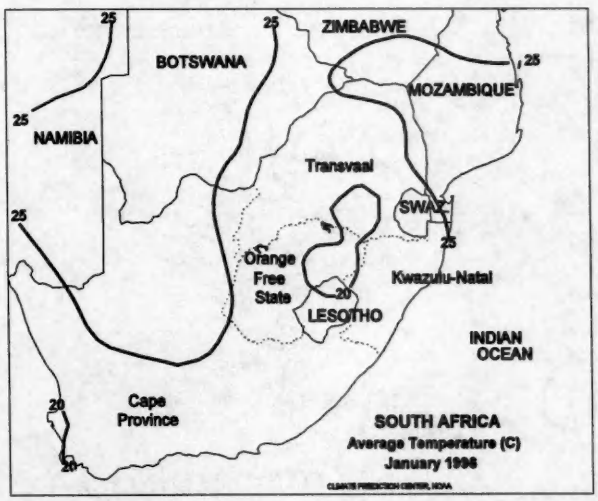


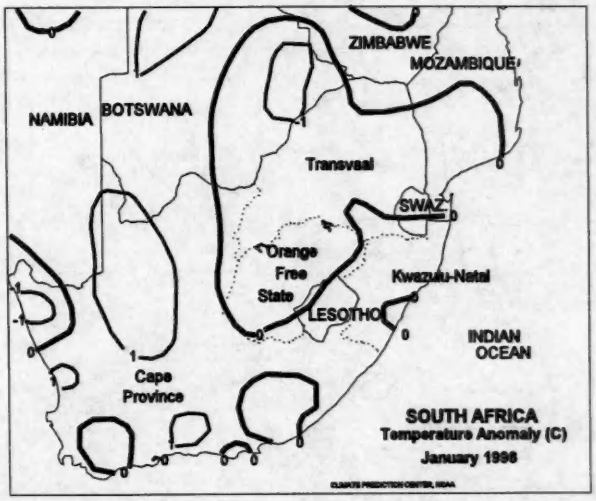
SOUTH AFRICA

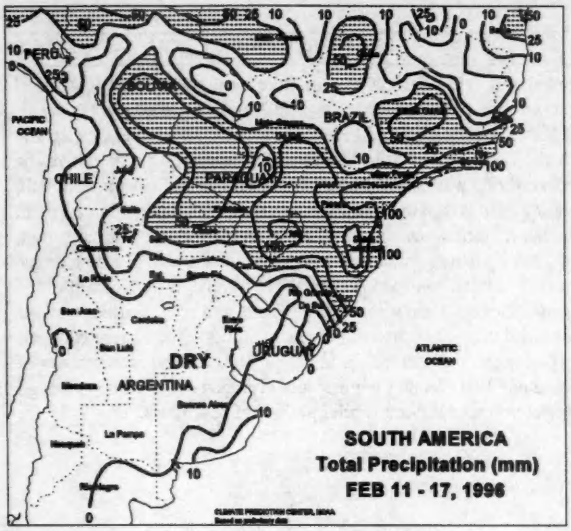
Inundating rain (100-200 mm or more) returned to large sections of the eastern corn belt and Kwazulu-Natal's main sugarcane areas. Additional flooding was likely along these regions' rivers, especially in the areas around Johannesburg and north of Durban where the heaviest rain was concentrated. Elsewhere, in the western corn belt, lesser amounts of rain (10-50 mm or more) benefited filling corn. In January, rainfall was near to above normal across the corn belt, maintaining ample moisture reserves for reproductive to filling crops. In fact, rainfall has been near to above normal in each month of the growing season (October to April) to date, and drier, warmer weather is needed to advance the crop toward maturity. The eastern corn belt experienced some flooding in January, as did sugarcane areas of Kwazulu-Natal. January temperatures averaged near normal, although western corn experienced brief periods of heat stress.





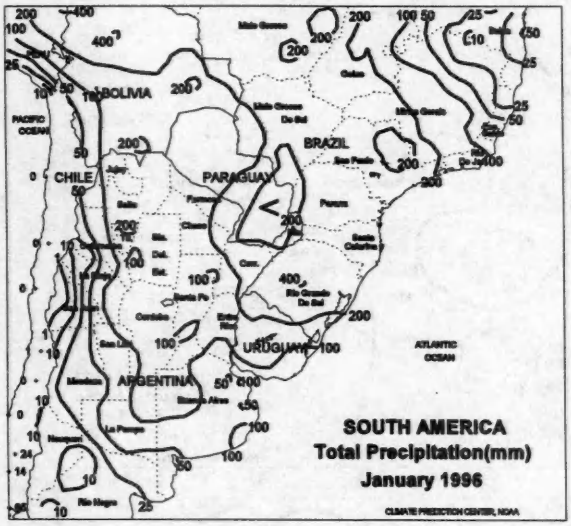


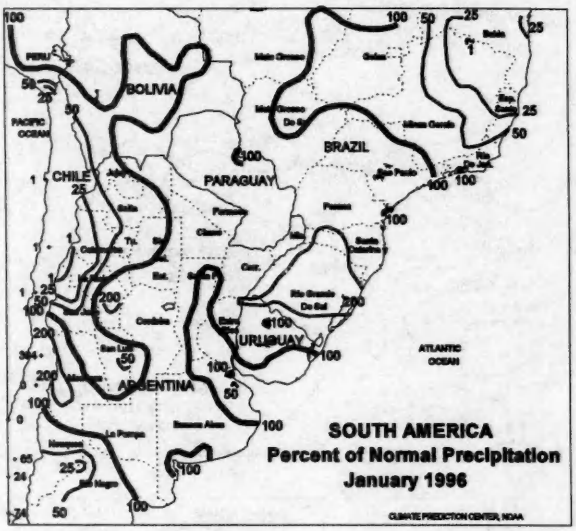


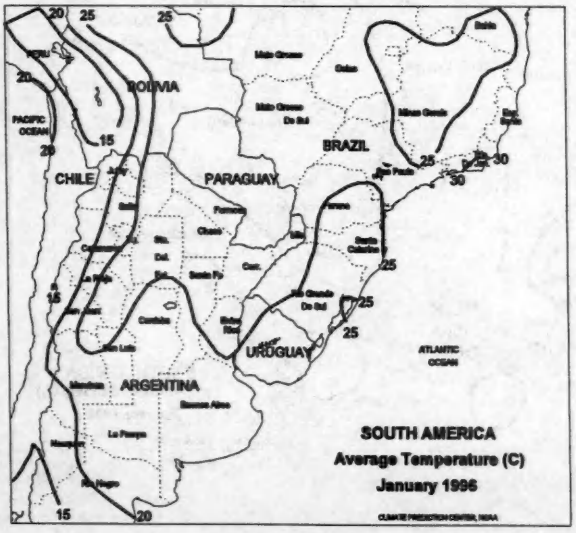


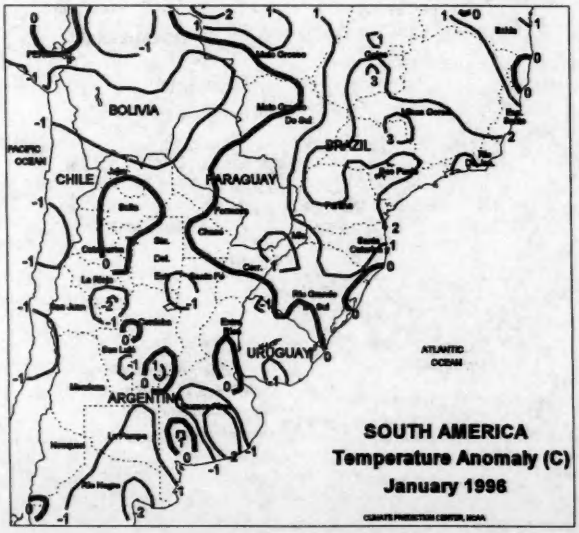
SOUTH AMERICA

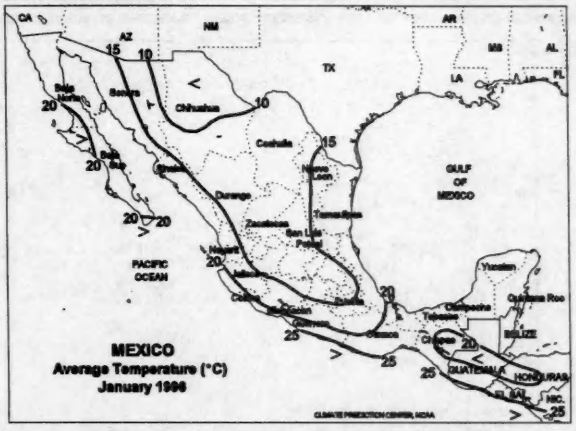
In central Argentina, dry weather stressed reproductive soybeans and filling corn in southern Santa Fe and northern Buenos Aires. By week's end, maximum temperatures reached into the low to mid-30's C, increasing crop water demand. However, due to cool weather earlier in the week, temperatures only averaged near normal. In southern Cordoba and La Pampa, soil moisture was adequate for summer crop development. In northern Argentina and southern Paraguay, moderate showers (25-70 mm) favored soybeans and late-maturing cotton, but delayed harvesting of early-maturing cotton. In southern Brazil, moderate showers (25-75 mm) continued across Rio Grande do Sul and Parana, keeping filling soybeans well watered. Farther north, scattered showers (10-50 mm) aided immature soybeans. In January, near-normal rainfall prevailed across central Argentina, providing mostly adequate soil moisture for corn and soybeans. However, portions of the region received below-normal rainfall, reducing soil moisture supplies. Below-normal January temperatures (1-2 degrees C) offset variable soil moisture levels by reducing crop water demand. In southern Brazil, above-normal January rainfall (150-200 percent of normal) dramatically increased soil moisture for soybeans across Rio Grande do Sul and southern Parana.

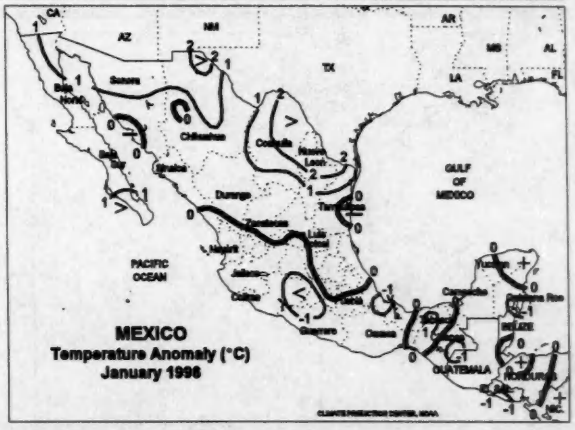












ENSO Update: Cold Episode (La Niña) Continues

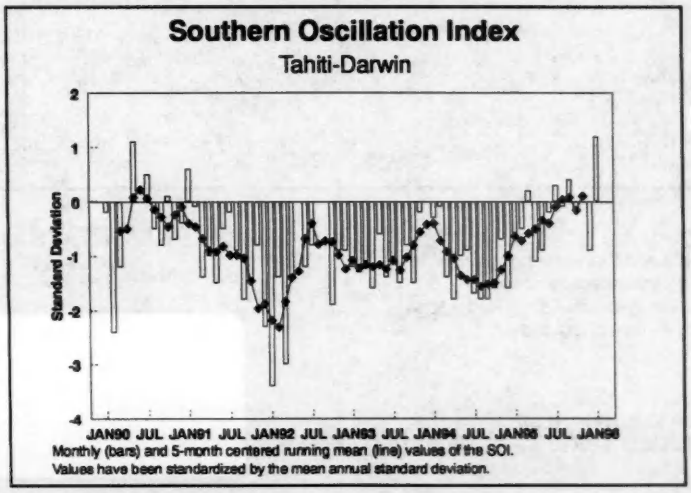
The following information on the El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is taken from the Climate Prediction Center, National Center for Environmental Prediction, Diagnostic Advisory 96/2, February 12, 1996.

Weak to moderate cold episode conditions continued in the tropical Pacific during January. Since June 1995, low-level easterlies have been stronger than normal throughout the central and western equatorial Pacific and sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies have steadily decreased in the central equatorial Pacific. During the last four weeks (14 January - 10 February 1996), negative SST anomalies were observed throughout the equatorial Pacific east of 170°E, with the largest negative anomalies (more than 1°C below normal) found between 140°W and 170°W.

The Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) increased sharply during January, as the sea level pressure (SLP) anomaly became strongly positive at Tahiti. This is the first time since May 1990 that the monthly value of the SOI has been greater than 1.0.

The present pattern and recent evolution of atmospheric and oceanic anomalies, together with the statistical and coupled model guidance, indicate that negative SST anomalies will continue in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific for at least the first half of 1996. Beyond that time, the statistical and numerical model predictions diverge, and confidence in the forecasts is low.

(Editor's note: "La Niña" has likely been a factor in some of the weather anomalies occurring over several global crop regions this past season, including the heavy rains over the Philippines, Indonesia, southeastern Africa, and eastern Australia. The dryness over Argentina during the latter part of 1995 was also likely related to "La Niña.")



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service/Climate Prediction Center
Managing Editor ..... ***Douglas Le Comte*** (202) 720-7919
Editor ..... ***Brad Rippey*** (202) 720-1444
Meteorologists ..... ***David Secora, Jeff Savadel, Brian Morris***
Subscriptions ..... ***Joyce Houston*** (202) 720-7917
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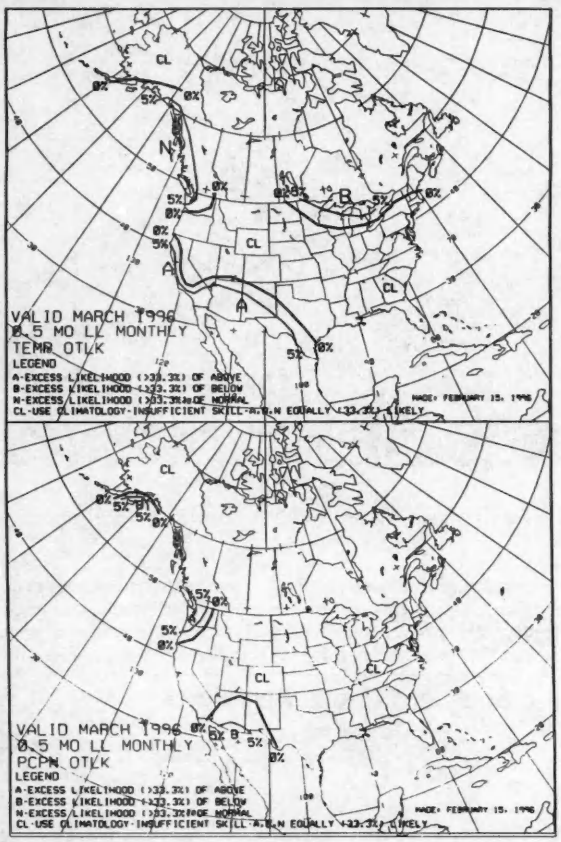

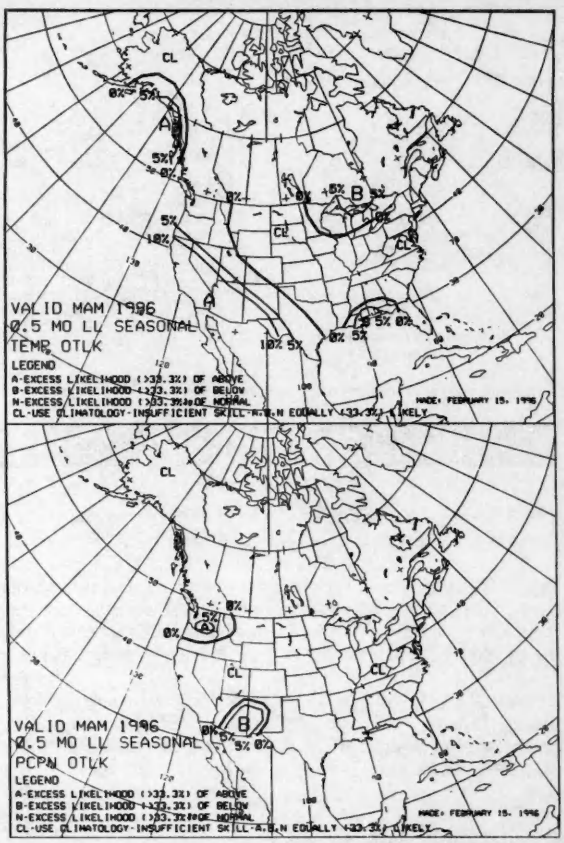

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